

THE CAMPBELL



PRESS

Serving the Community for over 125 Years

thecampbellpress.com

334 E. Campbell Ave, Campbell, CA. 95008

VOL. 04 No. 2

YOUR #1 COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION SOURCE!

DECEMBER 10, 2023

FREE

THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS IN FULL SWING

CAROL OF LIGHTS

DECEMBER 2ND IN DOWNTOWN CAMPBELL



Photos: Matthew C. Howe and Nancy O. Whitney

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



EDITH MORLEY PARK

PHOTO © MATTHEW C. HOWE

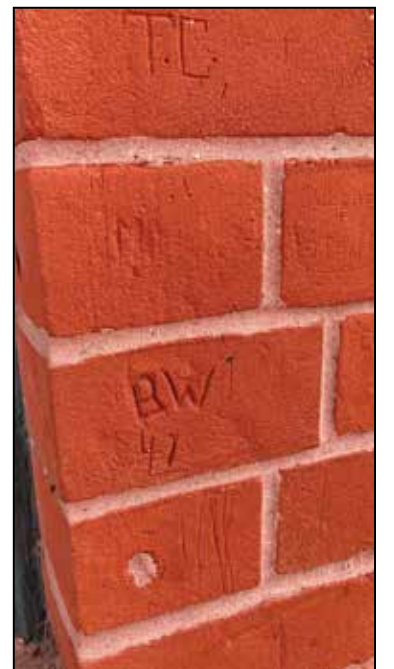
Just a Little Bit of History

By Susan Blake, Campbell Historic Preservation Board

November's mystery photo was taken at the base of the Campbell Water Tower. It is one of four steel anchors that support the tower. Built in 1928, the 75,000-gallon elevated tank was made by the Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company. It is one hundred and thirty feet high and has become the official symbol of Historic Downtown Campbell.

Prior to this tower, the city had two wooden water tanks with a total capacity of 60,000 gallons. The 1906 earthquake sent these tanks crashing to the ground.

Here is the mystery photo for December. See if you can figure out what you are looking at and where it is located. Happy Holidays.





WORD OF THE MONTH

“LEUCOMELANOUS”

[Lew-co-mel-uh-nus]
NOUN

A person who has dark hair, dark eyes, and a fair complexion.

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HAPPENINGS

MUSEUM MATTERS DECEMBER 2023

Ainsley House Holiday Evening Open House Events

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 pm 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’s Art Show – Submissions Open

Art submissions for the 2024 juried art show at the Ainsley House are open. The theme this year is “Community,” and we accept submissions from artists aged 6 and up! No cost to submit. Deadline is December 18, 2023.

Full details, entry guidelines, and entry forms can be found on our website www.campbell-museums.com under the “Exhibits” tab.



CORRECTION

The Campbell Press has formalized a correction in the November issue.

The byline reporter for the front page story about the Campbell’s Police Department Chief was **Carol Gerwitz**, not Susan Blake. Please take note of this important correction and apologies.

HERE’S HOWE



Goodbye to 2023, as well as some local businesses...

As I was rambling on last month about Campbell’s past, I had stated that the **Kinney Shoe** store was on the corner of Camden and Union, when it was actually on the corner of Camden and Bascom Ave. Oh, how they say the mind goes first! It does!

Looking around our area lately, I noticed the **Denny’s** that closed on Bascom Ave. is moving across and down the street to the south at Apricot and Bascom (by the 7-11) taking over the old **Goodies** restaurant that was there for many years. Remodeling is taking place now, so it won’t be long for those late nights to sober up and get your free birthday meal. Wait...do they still do that? I will let you know when they are going to have a “Grand Slam” re-opening! Yeah, I said it. The old **Hickory Pit** location across from the **B of A** at the Pruneyard is still an eyesore as it sits quietly in darkness. **The Doppio Zero** restaurant chain with several bay area locations had scheduled to open at the old **Rocket Fizz** location but has obviously been delayed since they were set to open this past Spring. Coming by Spring of 2024? Meanwhile I notice the SBI Builders retail/housing project is going forward at 566 Campbell Ave (The old Del Grande Auto location) is finally moving forward after solving some soil contamination issues that have now been resolved. Also, in case you haven’t noticed, the downtown parklets are finally finished! **Katie Blooms, Flights, 360 Trattoria**, and **Aqui** have

been completed and all have some type of heating element so you can still have a comfortable outdoor dining experience this winter.

Some unfortunate news to report and super sad to say goodbye to not only **Brown Chicken Brown Cow**, **Level Up** and also **Strike Brewery** too! **Strike** went out with a final “bang with a bash” on November 18th as a large crowd of regular patrons closed the place with a sense of pride holding a great send-off party that closed the doors for good. **Strike Brewing Co.** still has their 10th street location in San Jose. Both **Strike** and **Cow** were downtown but at “slightly off the beaten path” locations that we all know can make or break your success without the exposure and foot traffic that food and beverage locations really need.

Level Up, the family game & pinball bar located in the Growers Bank/Gaslight Theatre building, has also closed its doors in Campbell and elsewhere too. More on this later. These businesses all served a great purpose in our community and it’s frustrating they couldn’t pull through for whatever reason.

If you need a great deal on a sectional sofa or even a throw pillow, the **Campbell Furniture Store** next to **Recycled Books** will not be renewing their lease and are selling off all their inventory at very low prices. **The Celtic Shoppe** has also closed its doors for good. I remember buying my ‘clan’

Continued on page 5

THEN AND NOW



Photo: Campbell Historical Museum



Photo: © Matthew C. Howe

John D. Morgan Park celebrated its grand opening on July 4, 1975, with the entire community in attendance. I know because I was there. It was the party of the decade! Fireworks were shot off from San Tomas Expressway closing it for a short time. Before it was graded for its future, it was just a weedy field of dirt moguls. Several dump trucks had backed up their clean dirt loads into large tight piles, and teens saw the opportunity to build an oval dirt track there. On weekends it would be filled with mini-bike and motorcycles riders testing their future x-game skills. I remember my neighbors were a large part of it and where I got my first chance to ride a mini-bike.



A VOICE AMONG US

By Carol W. Gerwitz

Angela “Bomicua” Tirado was born in Hawaii, lived in Okinawa and North Dakota, and then, happily for our community, moved to San Jose at the age of 4 where she has resided ever since. I say happily because Angela contributes so much to so many with her voice and her volunteerism.

At age 8, Angela was encouraged to join the church choir; however, the choirmaster told her she must wait until she was 12. Undeterred and with encouragement about sharing her gift, Angela returned the second week when she was told the condition of joining the choir: she must audition before the choir singing a song of the choirmaster’s choosing. The piece assigned to Angela was “Ava Maria”--in Latin. Angela was nothing if not determined, and she set about learning the unfamiliar song in the unfamiliar foreign language. But there was going to be yet another obstacle: Not 24 hours prior to her audition on a Monday, Angela received a phone call on Sunday evening that she must wear a white blouse, a red skirt and patent leather shoes. K-Mart was the only store still open but only for another 30 minutes. Angela and her mother rushed there and found the three required items. However, the only shoes available were three sizes too big, so Angela wore two pairs of tube socks underneath a pair of pretty socks. The following

night, Angela sang for the 80 choir members, and, despite all of the roadblocks, she got a place in the choir. The choirmaster became Angela’s champion throughout the rest of her life, and, as requested in the choirmaster’s will, Angela sang at her funeral.

That church choir was Angel’s introduction to singing for service and community as an a capella soloist. “When God gives you a gift, you have to share it,” was Angela’s mother’s lesson. Angela, known as “The Voice of San Jose” sings throughout the community, but feels her most meaningful audiences are veterans. She sings for veterans organizations as a tribute to her dad (who served in the U.S. Air Force) and all veterans. Her favorite song for those performances is “The Star Spangled Banner”. Angela made certain to tell me that she sings the Anthem “straight”, without flourishes. She can also belt out a mean Whitney Houston, which she did for me.

Angela’s other gigs are at weddings, funerals, grand openings, quinceañeras, baptisms, immigration ceremonies and birthdays. She has sung at San Jose Giants and Oakland As baseball games as well as events for the County of Santa Clara and the City of San Jose. She has been known to drop in at convalescent facilities to sing for the residents and to lend her voice to birthday celebrations at local restaurants. Most recently



Angela sang on Veterans Day for the VIP breakfast with the Veterans Council of Santa Clara County and at Christmas in the Park.

Angela is the mother of three grown children and a 16-year-old daughter, Angelita, with Down’s syndrome. Angelita has just achieved a 3.5 GPA at James Lick High School, and Angela is understandably proud. Angela is a fierce advocate for her daughter and others with Down’s syndrome. She has attended courtroom proceedings as a volunteer advocate for victims of domestic violence and homelessness and has served as a volunteer for the San Jose Police Department and the office of the Santa Clara County District Attorney. Angela gives up a Saturday each month to feed the homeless in Oakland and help clean up that city with “Forever Oakland”, for which she serves as secretary. All of these activities are in addition to a full time job. This dedicated, effervescent woman with her gorgeous smile and voice is truly inspiring.

PUBLISHER NOTES

By Nancy O. Whitney

Campbell Celebrates The Holidays with Good Cheer!

So many of you turned out for the DCBA’s ‘Carol Of Lights’ celebration on Dec. 2nd, that was full of smiles and holiday sweaters. As the city often does for a big event, the streets downtown closed to allow the safe flow of our festive family goers for the annual Carol of Lights event. At one point it was jammed full of people and families enjoying popcorn, candy cotton, hot cocoa and cookies, surrounded by holiday music for a special time. Everyone enjoyed the letters to Santa that The Campbell Press hosted children to write-in their requests to Santa with great support by the enthusiastic team from the Country Women’s Club. Earlier in the week the Pruneyard Tree Lighting Ceremony was yet another fun holiday event. You can see some good times there on our back page aside information on the Pruneyard shops and the DoubleTree Inn. Both events were visited by Santa who spent some quality time in his busy schedule listening to the wish lists from all the boys and girls that came.

Check out our local athlete who has recently qualified for the Olympics! Read about it on page 5 under Special Announcements. Remember you can utilize our Special Announcements for any special event, achievement, or milestone that you would like to share with the community. Please let us know by the 25th of any month to have it placed in the next month’s issue. The cost is only \$50.

This issue is full of lots of hol-

iday cheer. Check out West Coast Chef Bill’s column for the best eggnog recipe ever on page 11. Our master gardener SAM writes about what to do for gardening safety, as well as protection for your pets. Speaking of pets, don’t forget to see page 13 for adorable pets your family can adopt. Also, while on the topic of animals, a friendly warning that coyote sightings have been reported in and around John D. Morgan Park as well as other locations recently. Remember to always be aware of your surroundings, especially in the early morning hours and keep your pets safe too by bringing them inside.

We want to mention that TCP is very appreciative of the support we have received and the many subscriptions we have added this year. A big thank you goes out to our advertisers for helping us keep this newspaper per moving forward! We ask that if you like our publication then please subscribe, advertise, place a Celebration of Life announcement, a wedding anniversary, or utilize our classifieds ads to sell your car.

In October of 2023, we have had to increase our rate from \$30 to \$39/year because of multiple increases in postage rates over the last couple years. You can pay for your monthly delivery electronically by using PayPal or Zelle us at nortwhitney@gmail.com. Thank You for a growing year and Happy New Year everyone!



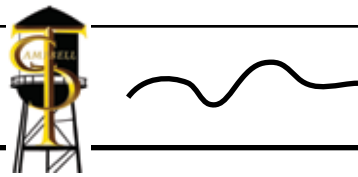
DECEMBER

CAMPBELL REAL ESTATE

DECEMBER



ADDRESS	SALES PRICE	B/B	AGE	LOT SIZE	SQ. FT
SOLD/CLOSED ESCROW, SINGLE FAMILY HOMES					
N. Peter Drive	\$2,500,000	3/2.5	66	6886	1861
Shady Dale Avenue	\$2,375,000	3/2	67	10398	1506
Dry Creek Road	\$2,323,000	4/2.5	46	11718	2194
Castro Court	\$1,982,000	3/2	64	9000	1248
Maximillian Drive	\$1,954,000	4/2	61	6000	1486
Middletown Drive	\$1,950,000	4/2	61	6157	1512
Hardy Avenue	\$1,850,000	4/2	56	5406	1643
Sharp Avenue	\$1,700,000	4/2.5	68	9659	1710
Highland Park Lane	\$1,625,000	3/2	62	6085	1135
Middletown Court	\$1,590,000	3/2	61	7465	1261
SOLD/CLOSED ESCROW, CONDO/TOWNHOMES					
Union Avenue	\$555,000	1/1	45		704
W. Hacienda Avenue	\$1,580,000	3/2.5	5	2360	1656
W. Sunnoaks Avenue	\$1,300,000	3/2.5	33	1979	1759
W. Rincon Avenue	\$1,300,000	3/2.5	42	1176	1665
Shelley Avenue	\$1,299,000	3/2.5	39	1671	1753
W. Campbell Avenue	\$1,075,000	3/2.5	43	2222	2065



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:



FOR A BETTER WORLD, WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?

By Pamela Berry

The West San Jose-Campbell Lions would like to invite local high school students to participate in our annual Student Speakers Contest. If you live in California and are in grade 9-12, you qualify. No need to be on the speech and debate team. All are welcome. Afraid of public speaking? We provide a friendly place for your first try.

We challenge you to address this year's theme "For a Better World, What Would YOU Change?" What societal issues would you address? How can your generation contribute to positive change? Craft your 5 to 10-minute

speech to inspire, provoke thought and offer solutions to make the world a better place.

The California Lions Student Speakers Contest is held each year to allow students throughout California to develop critical thinking and presentation skills while competing for \$21,500 in scholarship money granted by the Lions Fourth District Student Speakers Foundation. The contest begins at the local club level in late February and continues through Zone, Region, District and Area contests before the statewide competition on June 15, 2024.

For more information, use the QR code or contact Pam Berry at pamelawberry@gmail.com. We're looking forward to hearing your ideas!

The West San Jose-Campbell Lions always welcomes guests to our weekly meetings and volunteers for our many community service activities. Please contact us at info@wsjclions.org. WE SERVE.

Enter the California Lions Student Speaker Contest
Win up to \$21,500 in scholarship funds

February 2024

For More Info



info@wsjclions.org

Open to ALL High School Students

TOPIC: "For a Better World, What would you change?"

Your Local Sponsor



**West San Jose
Campbell Lions**

Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation Happenings

By Lucille Maravilla

November 2023 was a dynamic and momentous month for the Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation (CVMF) as we helped orchestrate three glorious events. Of course, the CVMF Board was beyond delighted to announce that former Campbell Mayor Elizabeth Gibbons was elected to the Board by unanimous acclamation. This represented the crown jewel in our exceptional month because Ms. Gibbons brings a wealth of local knowledge, gravitas, and grace to the Board.



cheer in abundance as befitting the occasion.

Amidst this glittering assembly were representatives of Mission and West Valley Community Colleges, whose participation underscored the importance of education and support for our veterans. Their presence highlighted the direct impact of the gala's fundraising efforts to enhance the lives and career opportunities of those who served.

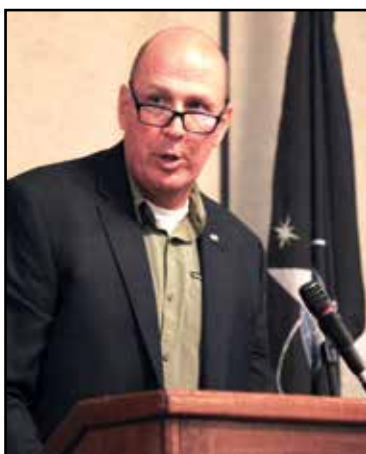
Highlighting the evening was the awe-inspiring address by Command Sergeant Major Patrick McKee, the Keynote Speaker. The audience was captivated as he narrated gripping tales of bravery from the battlefield. His stories of American soldiers displaying unparalleled courage under fire reinforced the belief that these heroes deserve our utmost respect and admiration.



CVMF Gala Dinner Celebration

In a dazzling display of elegance and purpose, the Foundation orchestrated its illustrious annual gala dinner in downtown Campbell on Friday, 11/17/23. Aptly stage-managed by MC Dan Furtado, this opulent event merged glamour and gratitude, as it was dedicated to raising funds for college scholarships for local veterans.

The sophisticated ambiance of Villa Ragusa was the perfect venue for a splendid evening. Distinguished local dignitaries, influential captains of industry, and well-respected sponsors graced the event as they engaged in lively discussions and dispensed holiday



Command Sergeant Major Patrick McKee talks about bravery.

The CSM's poignant reminder of those sacrifices left an indelible mark on all present and elevated the gala from a mere dinner to a memorable tribute to valor and patriotism.

A heartfelt hand salute is hereby rendered to all attendees, donors, and sponsors.

Veteran's Day Memorium

Led by Gold Star Father Ken Estep, CVMF was honored to reprise this important demonstration of CVMF's support of those local heroes who served this great nation. The ceremony was conducted on 11/11/23 at the Campbell Greens adjacent to City Hall.

Keynote Speaker CDR Merrell Gopsill, Commanding Officer, Navy Reserve Center, paid homage to our veterans, past and present. The Commander regaled the audience with tales of his vast experience and reminded everyone that Veterans Day is for us to reflect on their service, which transcends deployments and includes losing precious time with loved ones. Considering that the average age of living WW II veterans is between 96 and 102, our window to remember these brave people is closing. "This begs the question: why do people choose to serve? To do something for someone else, to put others above yourself."

Marine Corps Birthday Celebration

Mission Community College stands head and shoulders above most colleges and universities these days because it supports military veterans

Continued on page 15



By Margaret Schieck, President

Here we are in December already, and cold, dark evenings have become the norm; however, many "light" festivals help to relieve the monotony! For example, the Campbell Carol of Lights and the Orchard City Community Chorus Holiday Concert are both scheduled on Saturday, December 2nd. Why not come downtown for the tree lighting and stay for the evening concert at The Campbell United Methodist Church?

On December 19th, the Campbell Area Chapter 5151 of AARP will hold its annual concert/meeting. Harpists from Harpers' Hall will provide holiday music in Room Q 80 of the Campbell Community Center for our entertainment starting at 10:00 a.m. There is a sociable coffee hour at 9:15 until 10:00 a.m. Guests are welcome.

In November, our members heard a most interesting and helpful presentation by representatives of the Beakins Moving Company. They had many suggestions for Seniors "right-sizing" including what to eliminate ahead of packing time.

There will be no general meeting of our Chapter in January, 2024, as we will be celebrating our 28th anniversary as a Chapter of AARP with a special luncheon. We will resume our regular meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in February. We meet regularly in Room Q 80 of the Campbell Community Center at 1 West Campbell Avenue at 10:00 a.m. Guests are always welcome. One does not need to be a Campbell resident to join this Chapter.

In the meantime, we wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah, a Glad Winter Solstice, a Merry Christmas, and a Joyous Kwanza.

WANT TO BUILD OR NEED TO INCREASE BUSINESS?

Use The Campbell Press to reach over 125,000 for your local customer potential! Call for Reasonable Monthly Rates. 408-374-9700—ask for our advertising rates. Check us out at www.thecampbellpress.com



The Mid-Peninsula Widows & Widowers Association meets weekly and organizes social activities for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. The group meets every first Tuesday of each month from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. and every remaining Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Visitors should arrive 30 minutes before the meeting starts.

We coordinate games such as Bocce Ball, Bowling, card games, weekly walks at Rancho San Antonio and Shoreline Parks. Weekly and monthly gatherings for breakfast, lunch and dinner at local restaurants, monthly discussion groups followed by a potluck or dinner at a local restaurant. Events include seasonal parties, annual picnic and installation dinner and dance. Please contact Gloria 408-246-4642 or Jan 408-439-0776 for more information.



CWCC CELEBRATING A CAMPBELL CHRISTMAS

Country Woman's Club of Campbell (CWCC) supports the community in every season. This year during the Christmas holidays at the Carol of Lights we shared two tables in front of the Campbell Press. At one table we helped with "Letters to Santa". And at the other table children made tree ornaments and book marks. Cherri Fontana, volunteered three days of her time at Ainsley House Teas and Tours. There she saw several of our club members who attended the event. Every year CWCC presents a Christmas Bazaar. The participants can enjoy baked goods, shop for vintage Christmas decorations, homemade items, and more. This year's event was held December 4th at the Campbell Community Center. Christmas music was provided by the Del Mar High school



Izetta Kennedy, Alicia Ammann, Cherri Fontana, Anna Rutledge at Carol of Lights

band and carolers. Our theme was "Standup for Scholarships". Proceeds went to the club's Endowment Fund to support scholarships.

bell Avenue, Campbell. Tasting includes 4 different sparkling wines paired with small bites, all while supporting a great cause. All proceeds go to the Campbell Union High School District (CUHSD) scholarship program. Come join us for some great fun.

We wish everyone a joyous holiday season and a happy new year! Our club focus is to find ways to contribute in making Campbell a great place to live, to support families, and to provide educational opportunities for our children. Come



Del Mar High School Carolers at CWCC Christmas Bazaar

On December 12th at 5:30pm, CWCC will host a "Bubbles Tasting" fundraiser at Tessora's Barra Di Vina, 234 Camp-

join us if you want to do the same. For more information contact Cherri Fontana at 408 209-1310 or Lucille Maravilla at 408 205-4621.



Joanna Herz, Liz Gibbons, Cherri Cardona at Ainsley House



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

MADRONIA CEMETERY SARATOGA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023, AT 11 AM

PLEASE JOIN US TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

Madronia Cemetery in Saratoga is well known as a beautiful serene Cemetery, and a designated Arboretum. But there is more to Madronia Cemetery that makes it so special. It is Saratoga's town history, and the history of our Country. As a genealogist, I love nothing more than to research our history and the people whose lives were given in sacrifice to our country.

Many are aware of Mary Ann Day Brown who is buried in Madronia cemetery. She was the wife of the famous abolitionist John Brown who was hung at Harpers Ferry in December of 1859. In addition to the famous, there are many who have served without fame, and they deserve our attention and honor.



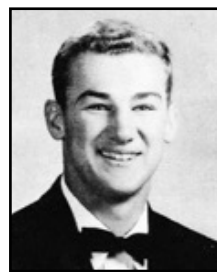
Anna Loveland was not just any nurse. She was an extraordinary woman of service. Anna graduated from the School for Trained Nurses in Buffalo N.Y. and became one of 7

head nurses. In 1918 she resigned from her position to join the war effort during WWI. She was 47 yrs. old and surely well respected when nurses between 25-35 years old were only accepted into service. Anna served as 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps from 20 Mar,1918 through 30 April,1934.



aviator, flying in the B-24 Liberator bomber. Assigned to the 444th Bomber Group based in England, he guided air missions over Nazi-occupied Europe. After a secret mission to bomb a Nazi submarine site in Greenland, Lt. Pecka, was shot down in a massive air raid over Bremen, Germany and subsequently crashed in Holland. Captured by Nazi occupation troops, Mr. Pecka was interned for almost 18 months in "Stalag Luft I." He received a Purple Heart for his service.

Barry Bennett Williams was born 31 Oct,1947 and



grew up in Saratoga CA. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corp. As a Lance Corporal, his specialty was Assault Amphibious Vehicle Crewman attached to the 3rd Marine Division, 1st Amtrac Battalion, B Company. During his service in Vietnam, he lost his life due to hostile artillery rocket mortar in the South Vietnam, Quang Tri province. A purple heart was given for his ultimate sacrifice. He was just 20 yrs old.

"It is said that we die twice. Once when our souls leave the Earth; and again, when our name is said for the last time." The Mission of Wreaths Across America is to not let our veterans die a last time but to always remember them. Each year we hold a ceremony to honor their sacrifice.

For a donation of a \$17 wreath, \$5 goes to local programs to support Veterans. To donate go to Wreathscrossamerica.org/CA0177P

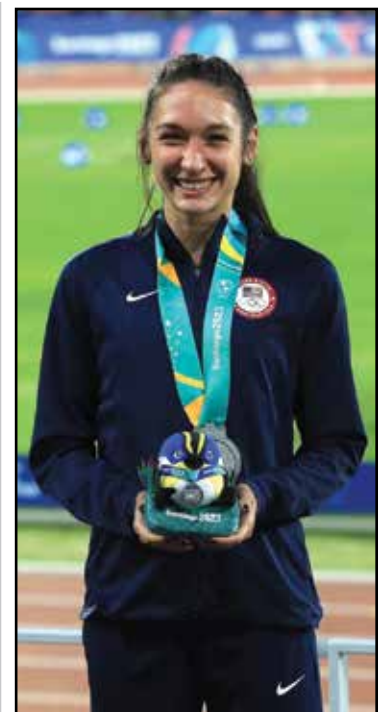
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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
CONGRATULATIONS TO AN OLYMPIC QUALIFIER!



Taylor Werner has loved running since she was six years old and received college scholarships for her talent.

A former NCAA middle- and long-distance runner at the University of Arkansas, she currently runs for Puma as a pro athlete and qualified for the Olympic trails in 2020, the next Olympic games, and the World Championships. Congratulations Taylor for winning 2nd place in the 5000m at Pan American Games in Santiago last month! Looking forward to cheering her on again!



HERE'S HOWE

Continued from page 2

material there years ago. Many iconic businesses in downtown have left us but they are also making a space for new growth. On another note, if it's a low-impact workout you're set on instead, check out **F45** across from **Blue Line Pizza**.

They offer a variety of custom workouts to match your personal needs. After you're done, try not to ruin your sweat equity by heading just east and popping into **NOX Cookie Bar** for one of their delectable chocolate chip cookies for the ride home. Save one for me! Merry Xmas and Happy New Year!



Campbell Chamber of Commerce

CELEBRATING CAMPBELL

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR CITIZEN AND BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

In 1968, Jeanette Watson was chosen as Campbell's first Citizen of the Year. She was deeply involved in the community, its organizations and politics, becoming its first female councilperson and first female Mayor.

Since Mrs. Watson was awarded Citizen of the Year, 55 others have followed in her footsteps, becoming involved, and donating their time, energy and talents for the betterment of Campbell. Some past winners include The Campbell Press's very own Sally Howe in 1990, former Campbell Chamber CEO, Betty Deal, in 2008, and most recently, Nicholas Welzenbach, Managing Partner for Darling Fischer and Los Gatos Memorial Park.

In 1997, Kirkorian Enterprises was chosen as Campbell's inaugural Business of the Year. It was time to acknowledge that local businesses were also stepping up and giving back in meaningful ways. A Tool Shed followed in 1998, The Campbell Express in 2001 and Business of the Year for 2022 was Sports Basement.

This longstanding tradition of acknowledging the individuals and businesses that give their best to Campbell culminates in March with Cele-

brate Campbell, an evening gala that formally acknowledges Citizen and Business of the Year winners along with numerous others who contribute to the betterment of the community.

Do you know a person or business that should be considered for Citizen or Business of the Year for 2023?

We'd love to hear about them!

Nominations are open through January 14, 2024 and application forms are available at CampbellChamberFoundation.org

The 56th annual Celebrate Campbell is Saturday, March 16, 2024. Save the date and come celebrate our 2023 Citizen and Business of the Year winners!



CAMPBELL TOY PROGRAM

Donations for the Campbell Toy Program can be made throughout December at



CAMPBELL CHAMBER

various locations in Campbell and San Jose, including many local fire stations.

What is needed:

New, unwrapped toys, books, games, arts & crafts, and sporting goods. You can also make a monetary donation at CampbellToyProgram.com

What age groups:

The Toy Program serves children up through age 14. We always need items for teens.

How else can I help?

We always need volunteers to sort, bag and distribute the toys. You can sign up for a shift at CampbellToyProgram.com

To learn more about the Toy Program, donation locations, upcoming events supporting the Program or to sign up to volunteer, visit CampbellToyProgram.com



Money Empowerment *by Jill*



EMOTIONAL SPENDING

The less I work out, the more I eat.

What does this have to do with finances, other than higher food spending? Keep reading.

My schedule has been wonky so my workouts are inconsistent and I realized today that I am snacking a lot more than usual.

It could be that working out makes me less hungry, or it might just be that being at the gym takes me further away from the kitchen for a longer period of time.

It could also be that I am more aware of my food intake when I am working out and therefore have better habits.

My truth is that I like my workouts and I like food. So, when one is lacking, I try to make up that missing feel-good feeling with the other.

The problem is that too much food eventually does not feel too good. Not only physically, but emotionally as well.

This could also happen with your financial situation.

Do you spend more money to "feel good" when you feel like something else is lacking? Are you an emotional spender?

So, what do we do?

In my case, my schedule is just crazy right now and I need to accept it and find something other than food to replace the good feelings I get when working out.

As for finances, here are a few tips:

1. Check in with your emotions before making a purchase

Many times we make purchases

when we are bored, sad, happy, or just in a rut. Not that there is anything necessarily wrong with this. It's more of a matter of awareness. Pay attention to your emotions the next time you are buying your coffee, at the mall or online shopping. What is going on inside you?

2. Check in with your emotions after making a purchase

You've made a purchase, large or small. How do you feel? Are you truly happy or does the happiness of the purchase wear off in a short time, in which case you purchase something else?

I used to joke that the fun of online shopping was the anticipation that something was going to be delivered. A new package every few days to open. But, it was not really a joke. It was true. The item itself was not really what was needed. Instead, it was just some more excitement in my day.

What patters

3. Is this something you really want?

Are you buying something because you like it and will actually use it or is this something that you're friends, family, social media or someone else has?

4. Is this something you can wait for?

Do you need it now? We live in an era where we can get most things instantly so it's hard when we wait. But, waiting is sometimes a blessing. Maybe there is a better alternative or price if you wait. Maybe if you wait, you will find you don't really want it.

Continued on page 15

NOMINATE CITIZEN & BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
2023
 NOMINATIONS OPEN THROUGH JANUARY 14, 2024

CAMPBELL TOY PROGRAM
NEEDS YOUR HELP



CITY NEWS *By Sergio Lopez*

On Friday, November 10, the City Council celebrated one of the major milestones of my tenure on the Council so far, and arguably a historic moment for our community: the groundbreaking of the library renovation project under Measure O.

Under a bright blue sky, nearly one hundred residents, supporters, and community members came out to witness the occasion. City Manager Brian Loventhal gave a summary of the progress of the project to date, as follows (lightly edited for brevity):

“In July of 2018, City Council figured out a funding source and authorized Measure O before the ballot, a \$50 million general obligation bond measure. On November 6 2018, the voters passed Measure O, and from there, things really took off.

In 2019 Santa Clara County Library District Agreed to fund [a portion of] critical library infrastructure. In May of 2020, the City Council awarded the design service contract. In April of 2021, the City Council approved the schematic design for the project, and in August of that same year the project achieved its environmental clearance. In May of 2022 the city issued a request for qualifications to identify contractors who were interested and qualified to bid on the project.

About that same time, the city applied for a California State Building Forward Grant to fund fire safety and critical maintenance and infrastructure needs of this project, and in September of that year the state awarded the city the grant. In November of that year 2022, the city applied for the Silicon Valley Clean Energy Community Decarbonization Demonstration Grant to enable the project to include full electrification, demonstrating to the public the benefits of electrification technology while greatly expanding citywide energy conservation efforts, awarded in February of 2023.

And then in June [of this year], the City Council approved the project’s final plans.”

The project ultimately made it to the groundbreaking with a significant share of successful grant awards from local, regional, and state bodies: \$500,000 from Silicon Valley Clean Energy, \$510,000 from the Santa Clara Library District, and \$4.7 million from the California State Library System — the final grant representing the largest award given out by the State Library System.

Taking part in the groundbreaking was the full City Council, including Mayor Anne Bybee, Vice Mayor Susan Landry, Councilmember Dan Furtado, Councilmember Elliot

Continued on page 15



COUNTY NEWS



2023: Looking Back, and Forward. Let’s Work Together in the New Year!

By County Supervisor, Joe Simitian

One of my favorite traditions of the year is the annual holiday tree lighting in our County’s cities and towns. Bringing light to long winter nights is part of many different faiths and cultures, and a wonderful way to celebrate community, compassion, and generosity. The holidays are also an apt time to reflect on the year past, and what we’ve been able to achieve; and to look ahead to the new year — to what we can do to make it an even better one, for all.

In 2023, our office made real progress on issues we championed related to health care, affordable housing, land use, and education — to the benefit of folks in my district, and county-wide. Highlights include:

- **West Valley Health Clinic:** Our efforts to establish a County Health Clinic on the De Anza College campus continued to gain momentum with the completion of preliminary site, design, and cost analyses. The clinic would be the first in the County’s 173-year history located in the West Valley, providing services for the area’s 400,000 residents as well as health care and career education for community college students.
- **Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Center.** The County’s first inpatient psychiatric hospital for kids and teens moved from the drawing board to construction, now

rising three stories next to the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. The 207,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility will also offer a major upgrade in mental health services for adults.

- **MedAssist Milestone:** The County’s innovative new program subsidizing the high cost of prescription drugs for qualifying residents diagnosed with diabetes, asthma, or severe allergies hit 1,000 enrollees. (Many more could benefit! Apply online at GetMedAssist.com or call 408-970-2001 for more information.)

- **West Valley Teacher Housing:** The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved the acquisition of a site in Cupertino for affordable housing for West Valley educators, a project modeled after the first ever County-led teacher housing development, which broke ground in Palo Alto in August.

- **Lehigh Cement Plant Closure:** The Board of Supervisors signed a binding agreement that permanently shuttered the 84-year-old cement plant in the West Valley foothills. Lehigh’s operations, which also include a quarry, racked up more than 2,100 violations and accrued millions of dollars in fines relating to pollution over the past decade. In anticipation of the quarry also ceasing operations, the County and

the City of Cupertino, who share jurisdiction, agreed to work together to ensure that any future development of the site benefits the surrounding community.

- **College of Adaptive Arts (CAA):** The Board of Supervisors approved a partnership with CAA to train adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in its workforce and apprenticeship program at West Valley College in Saratoga.

As I think about the progress of 2023, I’m grateful once again for the many civic and community partners who make it possible to tackle these and other issues too big for one person, one group, or one city alone. On so many fronts, we need to do more and we need to do it faster. There’s much to look forward to in 2024! Wishing you and yours a healthy and joyful holiday season.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian represents the Fifth District which includes Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Saratoga, Stanford, portions of San Jose and unincorporated communities in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Stay up to date on news and events happening in District Five by signing up for Supervisor Simitian’s monthly newsletter at his website: SupervisorSimitian.org.

City Council & Planning Commission News



By Adam Buchbinder

Noise isn’t just an annoyance, it’s a public health problem, and the way we plan our land use is intimately tied to the level of ambient noise.

The primary sources of ambient noise in Campbell are transportation, primarily cars, and gas-powered landscaping equipment. In other places, industrial machinery is a major source, but not here. Noise has been understood as a public health problem since the Noise Control Act of 1972, and regulated by Title IV of the Clean Air Act of 1990. Yet the primary source of noise is cars, and the noise they pro-

duce is neither meaningfully regulated nor controlled.

The effects of chronic noise exposure (generally defined as an average of 70 dbA or more over a twenty-four hour period) include hearing loss as well as an increased risk of hypertension, cardiac arrest, and dementia. (See IDs 35795699 and 24311120 on PubMed for details.) Apart from the health issues, it creates a generally unpleasant environment, and negatively impacts a place’s livability.

The sale of gas-powered small engines like leaf blowers and lawn mowers is banned as of

next year by 2021’s AB 1346. Electric models are between a tenth and a hundredth as loud, and also don’t pollute the air. Notably, the city was in theory able to regulate this without the state stepping in.

While there’s a general belief that dense cities are unpleasantly noisy, and the only way to avoid noise pollution is to live rurally, it’s not cities that are actually loud, it’s cars. It’s now possible to use noise-activated cameras to semi-automatically ticket cars with modified exhaust systems, which routinely disturb the outdoor diners on Campbell Ave. The city of

Knoxville has been using one effectively for several years. Modified exhaust systems have a long history among car enthusiasts; bypassing the muffler can increase performance, and drivers enjoy the sense of power they get from the sound. Whatever the motivation, they’re incompatible with walkability.

More generally, slowing traffic in pedestrian-friendly areas makes them quieter. The concept of superilles in Barcelona, superblocks within which through traffic is prohibited and speeds are reduced, was originally designed as a noise

mitigation strategy. Both of these strategies—noise ticketing and targeted speed reduction—are low-cost and can be implemented here. The result would be a quieter, more pleasant, more livable city.

Adam Buchbinder is a member of the Campbell Planning Commission. Opinions expressed here are his alone, not those of the Commission or the City. Contact the Campbell Planning Department at planning@campbellca.gov.





NAPOLEON DYNAMITE AT THE HERITAGE



Author Jackie Wolfe hangs out with the actors. Photo: Dave Lepori

The Heritage Theater held another great event on Thursday, November 2nd, that had everyone voting for Pedro all over again. Napoleon Dynamite fans of all ages flocked to Campbell for a night filled with so much laughter and pure love for Napoleon Dynamite. Before the screening of the film and Q&A, they had Tina the llama's cousin there for a photo op and the Old Greenwood BBQ food truck provided plenty of loaded tater tots and other delicious BBQ sandwiches. While GA ticket holders enjoyed tater tots and Tina the llama's cousin, VIP ticket holders had the once in a lifetime opportunity to meet

the actors who starred in Napoleon Dynamite (Jon Heder), Pedro (Efren Ramirez) and Uncle Rico (Jon Gries) before the show! Talk about actors that truly love their fans; greeting every person with a warm bear hug and wanting to get to know every single person that walked into the room. All three of the actors tried to make the most out of their time while meeting and interacting with so many people and that is what made it even more special. Once 8pm came around, the lights flashed, and the movie began. Everyone gathered to their seats to enjoy the screening of Napoleon Dynamite and it was like we

were all watching it for the first time again. So many laughs and smiles filled the room during the entire film. After the show, they did a Q&A with the actors which was great fun. They warmed up the crowd with some singing and general conversation of the movie which all lead to one specific statement; "what you see in the movie is exactly how it is." – Jon Heder. Which after watching it again, that made perfect sense. All the different characters in the movie were either real people that lived in the town that the movie was filmed, or they based the character off of people the actors knew; like Jon Heder said when playing Napoleon Dynamite, it reminded him of his younger self growing up in a small town in Utah. They had a few people go up on stage to test some lucky fans on their Napoleon Dynamite movie knowledge and they held a costume contest/dance off for all the fans that dressed up as characters from the movie too.

It was a night none of us will forget and remember to VOTE FOR PEDRO!

DECEMBER MOVIES



By Sam Wilson

The Holdovers - A-

Acclaimed indie director Alexander Payne (Election, About Schmidt) reunites with his "Sideways" star Paul Giamatti (American Splendor, Shoot 'Em Up), delivering their best work yet for this character-driven comedy-drama which will likely result in recognition come awards season. A universally disliked Scrooge-esque teacher at a prep school gets saddled with watching the few students who don't go home during the Christmas holiday break, the holdovers. The criminally underrated Giamatti tears into the meaty role, showcasing his natural ability to make the audience laugh and cry.

The Marvels - C-

Inexplicably poor writing, generic plotting, low stakes, and easily the worst main villain to ever appear in a Marvel film are just some of the endless reasons for the failure of this sequel. Brie Larson returns as Captain Marvel, teaming up with Kamala Khan (introduced in Disney+ show "Ms. Marvel") and Monica Rambeau (introduced in Disney+ show "WandaVision"). The main trio are appealing, but they're stuck with a discount-"Thor: Ragnarok" tone that tries hard to be funny but mostly just misses the mark. Includes a baffling appearance from Samuel L. Jackson.

Napoleon - C+

Iconic director Ridley Scott (Alien, Gladiator) and the brilliant Joaquin Phoenix (Joker) elevate an otherwise average genre entry. A 2.5 hour historical epic recounting French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte's journey to power and rise and fall through the prism of his relationship with his wife, Josephine of Martinique (Vanessa Kirby). Essentially, it's series of dates in Napoleon's life, a few superb action scenes, and a love story stringing it all together.

Saltburn - B-

Thriller inspired by "Talented Mr. Ripley" featuring an unsettling performance from Barry Keoghan (Dunkirk, Eternals) that cements him as one of the top up-and-coming actors in Hollywood. A smart yet awkward Oxford student becomes infatuated with his new friend, a charming aristocrat (Jacob Elordi from HBO's "Euphoria") who invites him to his parent's (Rosamund Pike and Richard E. Grant) estate for an unforgettable summer. The eyebrow-raising ending will have people talking long after the credits roll.

Wish - D+

Disney's latest animated fairytale isn't especially bad per se, it just reeks of

Continued on page 9

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CineLux recently launched its "CineLux Senior Days." At any CineLux Theatre, admission is only \$5 for any movie every Monday and Wednesday for adults over 55 years of age! CineLux is also discounting concession items on those days too, where popcorn, fountain drinks, and hot dogs are all at lower prices for our special seasoned guests!

MOVIE REVIEWS

Continued from page 8

being a soulless computer generated rip-off of Disney classics. In a magical world where people literally wish upon a star, a young girl upsets the status quo and finds herself up against King Magnifico (Chris Pine), their monarch who controls everyone's wishes. Littered with tropes and lacking in imagination with arguably some of the most uninspired musical numbers of all time.

The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes - C

The popular franchise continues with this cash-grab prequel chronicling series villain Coriolanus Snow from humble beginnings to the path that leads him to be a tyrannical president. Set 64 years prior to the original, sparks fly when a young Snow (relative newcomer Tom Blyth) is paired as mentor with female tribute Lucy Gray (Rachel Zegler) and he must do all he can to keep her alive during the 10th annual Hunger Games. The supporting cast includes a dynamic Peter Dinklage, a hammy Viola Davis and a darkly hilarious Jason Schwartzman.

Thanksgiving - C

Thanksgiving-themed slasher that brings the gore and the holiday spirit but fails to deliver the campy satire that was promised. Based off his fake film trailer from 2007's "Grindhouse", accomplished horror maestro Eli Roth (Hostel, Cabin Fever) directs a slick-looking "Halloween" knock off with an axe-wielding masked individual going around murdering folks in their homes on the titular holiday following a Black Friday tragedy the previous year. Patrick Dempsey (Enchanted) leads the forgettable cast.



Wednesday, December 13
7:00pm
First Call

Thursday, December 14
6:00pm
Blues Jam

Friday, December 15
7:00pm
Ghosts of Calico

Saturday, December 16
7:00pm
Identity Problem

Wednesday, December 20
6:00pm
Jazz Jam

Thursday, December 21
6:00pm
Blues Jam

Friday, December 22
7:00pm
Seven Shades of Grey

Saturday, December 23
7:00pm
Engine Room

Wednesday, December 27
6:00pm
Acoustic Showcase

Thursday, December 28
6:00pm
Blues Jam

Friday, December 29
7:00pm
Kaye Bohler

Saturday, December 30
7:00pm
Summit Boys

Sunday, December 31
8:00pm
New Eve Bash with Sound Decision

Wednesday, January 3
6:00pm
Dennis Dove

Thursday, January 4
6:00pm
Blues Jam

Friday, January 5
7:00pm
PB & J Band

Saturday, January 6
7:00pm
Blues Rockers



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Morgan Hill
1P-4P

December 16
Satori Cellars Buena
Vista Ave, San Martin
1:30P-4:30P

December 27
Acoustic Showcase
Little Lou's BBQ
6P-9P
(We play 6P—come early!)



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December 15 **ONE COUNTRY & COUNTRY COUGARS & DJ Mike**
Rockin' Country Holiday Party with 2 live country bands

December 16 **CHARLEY'S HOLIDAY PARTY W/THE MIX & DVS DAVE**
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December 22 **FISHCAKE BAND & DJ MIKE**
Classic Rock, Pop, R&B, Rock & Alternative

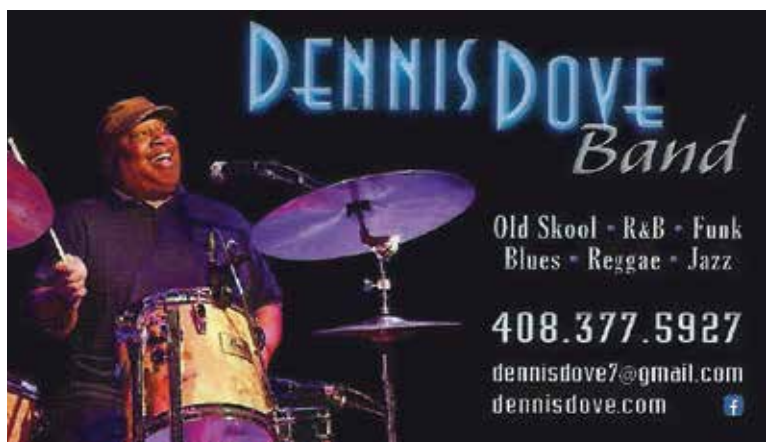
December 23 **ENCORE DANCE BAND & DVS DAVE**
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December 29 **GUD TYMEZ PARTY BAND & DJ MIKE**
Party band playing top hits, dance, funk & pop

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12/8 The Bob Gonzalez Band | 8pm-11pm

12/13 White Christmas Queen Bingo | 7:30pm-10:30pm

Guests are encouraged to wear all white. A portion of the night's proceeds will be donated to the Bill Wilson Center

12/16 One Country Band | 8pm-11pm

12/23 Osgood Cain & The Enablers | 8pm-11pm

12/30 LEMO LIVE | 8pm-11pm

Sundays Karaoke & Industry Night | 8pm-Midnight



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ENCHANT SPARKLES AT PAYPAL PARK

By Jennifer Packard, Entertainment Critic

Catch the holiday spirit at Enchant! Enchant Santa's Magic Timepiece is a family-friendly holiday destination for the

hunt to find eight missing star fragments to create Santa's magic timepiece and save Christmas! There are multiple beverage and

and boutiques - perfect for holiday shopping. Guest favorites include local honey which can be purchased by South Bay city and



South Bay community. From a light maze to an ice skating trail to a visit with Santa and a stroll through the Christmas market, there is something for everyone to enjoy. You'll want to step up to a beverage station to purchase a giant, glowing light bulb filled with either raspberry lemonade or a signature cocktail with cinnamon whiskey.

With over 4 million sparkling lights, the Maze captivates guests in various ways: walk through the Santa's Magic Timepiece displays, dance on 324 changing color light squares, watch the dazzling Enchant dancers perform, or follow the scavenger

hunt to find eight missing star fragments to create Santa's magic timepiece and save Christmas! There are multiple beverage and

The ice skating trail is a superb, outdoor alternative to a traditional ice skating rink. Guests enjoy skating down and around an ice trail lit with holiday lights and lined with Christmas trees. This activity requires an additional fee and waiver. The large stock of ice skates is sure to have sizes on-hand for your entire family.

The Christmas market encircles Pay Pal Park with dozens of artisan vendors, specialty crafters,

even neighborhood that you live in (great for fighting allergies!), macarons and cupcakes, and hand-carved puzzles.

Didn't have time to eat before you arrived at Enchant? No problem. In traditional Pay Pal Park style, there are food trucks on the east lawn for guests to dine. Need a place for moms and dads to relax with little ones? Step into the Little Elves Play Place on the north side of the park. Access is included with any admission ticket and children 0-7 will find all kinds of fun to explore - maybe you'll be lucky enough to visit for storytime with Mrs. Clause!

And the piece de resistance is a visit to Santa! Santa has his own private quarters for guests to share their holiday hopes and pose for a professional photo. This is the best Santa that the area has to offer - he plays with the children (and young at heart adults) and really listens to each visitor. Your Enchant experience is made complete with your visit to Santa's Landing on the south side of the park.

The Enchant concept was born of two Canadians, Kevin Johnston and Cam Walker, who as teenagers helped their neighbors put up their Christmas lights. For two years, they gathered a team of professionals to intensify their dream and, in 2016, through their creative spirit emerged a holiday themed outdoor light maze adventure for guests for Vancouver, B.C. to enjoy. And

7 years later, Enchant is lighting up seven cities across the United States and San Jose is the only California location.

Enchant is open at Pay Pal Park (by the San Jose International airport) November 24 - December 31, 2023. Ticket prices: \$33 (Adult), \$25 (3-17 years), and free infants up to age 2. Special discounts offered for a Family 4-Pack, Seniors (65+), Night Owls, active military, groups over 25 guests, or a Private Suite.

Enchant created theme nights for guests to immerse themselves further into the holiday spirit: Paws & Claus Night (Dec. 3), Military Night (Dec. 7), Ugly Sweater Night (Dec. 10), Ladies Nights (Dec. 14 & 21).

Next year all our troubles, will be miles away...have yourself a merry little Christmas!

Before the Song: "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" by Bruce Springsteen

For many people, Bruce Springsteen's version of "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" is the one that best captures the excitement of this time of year. Springsteen sings it like he does all his songs—like it's the last song of the night and he wants to make sure he's got nothing left in the tank. The fact that it's a live concert recording adds to the emotion.

Springsteen's version was released in the early '80s, but he began playing it in concert in December 1975. The recording we all know from the radio was recorded on December 12, 1975 at a concert in New York. He

pulled off a nice solo piano version of the song at a show in 2005.

"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" was first a hit in 1934, and Springsteen's not the only one who released a cover version: The Jackson 5, The Pointer Sisters, Mariah Carey, and The Partridge Family have all recorded the song. Springsteen's is the longest version of course: that's what happens when you spend the first minute of the song talking to the band. □

Chris Jackson, "Mayor of Silicon Valley", can be heard on 98.5 KFOX The South Bay's Classic Rock, weekdays 6am-9am

IT'S THE HOLIDAYS!

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P	O	H	S	K	R	O	W	M	O	M	T	N	C	N
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N	T	A	L	L	J	Y	A	O	R	R	E	E	A	N
A	H	T	A	H	O	L	L	Y	B	E	R	R	Y	I
M	P	N	U	T	Y	D	E	G	R	A	V	Y	L	C
W	O	A	A	R	T	R	U	T	H	T	E	U	L	K
O	L	S	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	H	L	L	O	L
N	E	N	O	C	A	N	D	Y	C	A	N	E	J	I
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DIG IT...



with SAM

By Sharon McCray, UCCE Master Gardener

Pets and dangerous foods, plants and household items.

It's that time of the year. Family and friends, too much food and desserts along with too much to do. Shopping, cleaning, cooking, the list goes on. One thing you shouldn't have to worry about is your pets. But, especially during these busy times, it is important to think about our pets, whether they be dogs, cats or whatever.

First off, knowing the difference between dangerous, toxic and poisonous plants, food or household products is a good place to start. Dangerous may cause nausea and vomiting, while toxic reactions run the gambit: vomiting, diarrhea, anorexic and believe it or not, depression. Poisonous is obvious and trying to revive a pet

that has eaten something that they shouldn't of, is usually not successful.

Some of the most obvious toxic plants include Amaryllis, holly and mistletoe. There is always the talk about poinsettias and while they are toxic, the toxicity is usually mild. It is always best to err on the side of caution and keep suspicious plants and foods safely out of easy reach.

Every part of lily is highly toxic to cats, including pollen and excess water from the plant basin. If any part of the plant is ingested by a cat, it can cause serious life threatening kidney damage. Beware of this issue if you have curious cats that like to nibble on plants, espe-

cially during Easter when lilies are everywhere.

Amaryllis are so much a part of the season, it can be hard to accept that both the bulb and flowers can be dangerous for your dogs. Holly and mistletoe are both toxic to pets and should be kept out of easy reach. Use caution is placing where they are easily accessible.

While the focus of this column is plants and gardening, it is also important to mention foods that should never be given to pets, including chocolate. Some animals that have been eaten too much chocolate have perished.

According to the ASPCA, in alphabetical order, these foods should not be given to your pets: alco-

hol, avocado, chocolate, coffee and caffeine, citrus, coconut and coconut oil, grapes and raisins, macadamia nuts, milk and dairy, onion, garlic, chives, raw/undercooked meat, eggs and bones, salt and salty snack foods and yeast dough. Xylitol is used as a sweetener in candy, gum and toothpaste and is also toxic. It is interesting that Xylitol can cause insulin release in most animal species and lead to liver failure.

The ASPCA has a very useful website and can help with more specific information. www.aspc.org. If you think your pet has ingested something they should not of, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center can be reached at 888-426-4435. Dogs

seem to be more prone to eating things they shouldn't than other family pets.

Household items should also be kept out of reach. Why anything would drink a household cleaning product is beyond me, but it happens. Aspirin, including baby aspirin, Avon Skin So Soft, breath fresheners and grape seed oil, ibuprofen and naproxen, Pepto bismol and Kaopectate and sorbatol should also be kept out of reach.

I sincerely hope this information is useful and not alarmed anyone. No one wants to spend their holidays worrying about their pets and an ounce of prevention could certainly help keep everyone safe. Have a safe holiday.

WEST COAST CHEF

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!



By Bill Peil

In December, look for peak flavors from black truffles, fennel, snow peas, persimmons, tangerines, pears, celery root, oysters, Dungeness crab, rockfish, artichokes, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, kale, grapefruit, lemons, kiwi, mushrooms, pomegranates, radishes, spinach, winter squash.

This is the time of year when we'd all like to be dashing through the snow in a one horse open sleigh. We are blessed with our own fantasies, customs, and aromas of this magical season. We can cruise Willow Glen in all its resplendent majesty, and colorful holiday streets. We can drive through Vasona's festival of lights, the magical Dickens Xmas faire in south city, the glorious San Francisco hotels all decked out in holiday splendor. The intoxicating temptations of grandma's homemade cookies and brandy laced fruit-

cakes. The freshness of a newly cut Christmas tree, a crackling fire in the fireplace, the seducing aromas of fresh roasted chestnuts.

Coming in red faced from a night of Christmas shopping and thawing with a hot buttered rum or eggnog, listening to enchanting Christmas carols. Little did Abraham Lincoln know, when he set the first permanent Thanksgiving celebration in 1863, that it would be opening the door to the most wonderful time of the year. *Watching Polar Express, It's a Wonderful Life, White Christmas, Christmas Vacation, Elf, Home Alone, A Christmas Carol*, or a good Hallmark movie, adds to the festivities.

I try to put out a spread of delicacies that we don't normally enjoy during the year. Smoked pheasant, porchetta, blinis and caviar, foie gras, Smithfield ham and buttered biscuits, Parma prosciutto, prime rib with Yorkshire pudding, Scottish smoked salmon, a board of cheeses, holiday chutney, fresh pates

and terrines, plum pudding, cheesy onion soup, pomegranates, persimmons, chestnuts, fried cardoons, tamales, enchiladas, homemade pasta, Champagne, Christmas ales, and a Spode bowl of eggnog and wassail. Here is our family recipe for eggnog. None better.

Charles Dickens wrote, "Christmas is a good time. A kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time. The only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one content to open their shut up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. And if it has spiced the merriment of the holidays, I say, long life to it". And it was always said that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any one ever possessed the knowledge. Let that be said of us, and all of us. And as Tiny Tim said, God bless us everyone" Have a glorious holiday season to you and yours. Cheers, Billy

EGG NOG FOR THE AGES

In a large bowl, beat 18 yolks with half box of powdered sugar. Also, beat the whites with half box powdered sugar. Beat quart cream with half box powdered sugar. Fold whites into yolks, then fold in lightly whipped cream. Grate a whole bunch of nutmeg, and a bunch of grated tangerine rind. Add gallon whole milk and quart half and half. Fold lightly. Add full bottle Wild Turkey 101, bottle Myers rum, and half bottle Grand Marnier. Grate more nutmeg and enjoy. I know this sounds like a lot of sugar, but you are adding over 2 gallons of liquid.



Christmas Magic by Tom Browning





Coach's Corner

By Jay Harnden

HAPPY TIME OF YEAR?

Here we are once again...another year comes to an end, holidays are coming and going. I know that many people experience joy and happiness this time of year, however many do not. I want to share with you something that will help you put into perspective some of the things in your life that bring you down. There is a documentary that I stumbled upon a little over ten years ago, that has helped me tremendously, not just in my own life, but in the lives of some of the people that I meet. The movie is called "Happy", by Roko Belic. I will quote one of the online reviews. "Happy takes us on a journey from the swamps of Louisiana to the slums of Kolkata in search of what really makes people happy. Combining real life stories of people from around the world and powerful interviews with the leading scientists in happiness research, HAPPY explores the secrets behind our most valued emotion." First thing that impressed me was finding out that there are scientists actually studying and

doing research on happiness, and that there are actually things you can do to help yourself develop a 'more happy' self. The movie goes on to feature various people who face challenges and manage to be happy while working to handle and overcome them. I've seen the movie several times, and each time I walk away with something that I didn't know before. The people featured in the documentary have chosen to "look on the bright side" so to speak and handle their challenges with an amount of courage and determination that is to be admired. The film is basically a series of vignettes that features people from all walks of life. Some have dealt with serious, seemingly insurmountable issues, and emerged having learned many things about themselves and others in the process. I really wanted to share this at the holiday season, so that if you or a loved one are struggling with mental health issues, you can take an approach that is a bit different and just may help you to get through some of the

challenges and difficulties that come with this time of the year. Imagine your face getting run over by a truck. There happens to be a woman in the film who suffered that and learned how to survive and be happy. Imagine having a successful career in banking and giving it up to work at the Mother Teres home for the dying in India. Yes, there is a gentleman in the film who did that, and he is happier than he has ever been. There are numerous ways you can watch this movie. Do an internet search, and I'm sure you'll find one that will suit your needs. Please invest the time into checking this wonderful documentary out. You'll be glad you did. Share the movie with your friends and family. I guarantee it will touch many lives. As always, I welcome your input, and please let me know if you are able to watch this movie. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! Fathermattersinc@aol.com



SO, WHO'S FAULT IS IT ANYWAY?

Are you on Santa's Naughty List? Some folk think that all airlines are.



When your flight is delayed or canceled, You don't really care what the reasons are, you just want to get to your destination.

Now, let's be reasonable about this. Airlines can't control the weather and have to react as safely as possible when the weather gods are screwing up their schedules. They keep telling us that safety is their number one priority and that is FACT.

Airlines can supply aircraft and crews to fly them but when it all goes horribly wrong it is often not their fault.

But in the compensation culture we live in, you'll find many opportunistic lawyers who say they can claim recompense on your behalf for a small (or maybe not so small) fee.

This ambulance chasing mentality does not do anyone any good.

I had a recent experience whereby my plans were drastically altered when I received an email from the airline giving me five hour's notice about the first of a series of flights (6am departure), that had been canceled and that I had been rebooked 24 hours later. That was as much use to me as a chocolate fireguard.

I managed to re-route my schedule using a partner airline, but it meant I had to change departure airport to another city 50 miles away and arrange transport to that city. In doing this I had some unplanned expenses.

I made a claim with the original airline, only to be denied as the delay was due to "weather" Now, I just happened to know that it was not

weather but a shortage of crews with this airline.

Post covid, airlines are suddenly faced with a great propensity to travel from their customers. They discovered that not only was the demand to travel far in excess of the pre-pandemic levels, but they had insufficient crews to meet that demand. Now there is a recruitment drive almost on a war footing - your airline needs YOU (to fly their aircraft!

While the cost of obtaining a commercial license was prohibitive for many, incentives are now offered to be trained by the aisles themselves.

It is strange that as I had posted my woes on Facebook, I started to receive messages about claims for delayed or canceled flights and how these legal eagles could screw some money out of the airline. As I am aware of just how the aviation industry avoids compensation almost as efficiently as aircraft avoid bumping into each other, I wouldn't hold out much hope of this working out.

A quick thought about baggage during the forthcoming seasonal rush. Don't wrap any presents as they may have to be unwrapped by security to check their contents. Also check with the airline website just what can be included in checked and carry-on bags.

As the Marx Brothers said, "there ain't no Sanity Clause" so take a sane approach to your seasonal flights.



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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Campbell Crime Report



By Carol W. Gerwitz

2000 blk. S. Bascom Ave.: Suspect made entry into the business by using the key in the lock box and stole the cash register. Report.

1200 blk. W. Campbell Ave.: Victim alleged that Suspect's chest bumped him and wanted prosecution. To DA.

1700 blk. S. Bascom Ave.: Two suspects entered the store and stole \$1,747 in merchandise prior to fleeing the store. Report.

200 blk. E. Campbell Ave.: Two males were fighting and one was reportedly throwing things. Suspects were contacted but refused to stop. Suspect 1 was determined to be drunk in public and was seen on video throwing a stanchion towards employees. Suspect 2 continued walking and took a fighting stance and refused to comply. Officers subdued Suspect 2 who was taken

into custody. Both were arrested and booked.

100 blk. N. 3rd St.: Suspect was contacted after Child Protective Services was notified about a scratch on minor victim. Officers and CPS interviewed the parties, and Suspect was taken into custody. Booked.

300 blk. Budd Ave.: Suspect was causing a disturbance in the park and determined to be under the influence of a CNS stimulant. A parole hold was granted on Suspect. Booked.

2100 blk. W. Winchester Blvd.: Suspect ordered breakfast and did not pay for it, for the second time. Suspect was listed as a missing person out of Fremont. Removed from Missing & Unidentified Persons. Cited.

1600 blk. Bucknall Rd.: Victim 1 and Suspect 1 were involved in an argument wherein Suspect 1 slapped Victim and pulled her hair

while she was holding Victim 2. Suspect 1 fled the scene while Suspect 2 took Victim 1's phone from her and damaged it to prevent her from talking to CPD Dispatchers after 911 was called. Suspect 1 was located, and both suspects were arrested.

Budd Ave. and S. Winchester Blvd.: Suspect was stopped for a CVC violation and was in possession of brass knuckles, methamphetamine, and a methamphetamine pipe. Cited.

700 blk. Nido Dr.: Victim was speaking with her neighbor on the phone. An unidentified male in the background threatened Victim by saying "she's dead." Report.

200 blk. Echo Ave.: Victim and Suspect got into an argument over Suspect's drinking. Victim tried to leave but Suspect stood in the doorway and slammed Victim's hand in the door. To DA.

900 blk. E. Hamilton Ave.: Unknown Suspect spit and

chest bumped Victim during an argument. Report.

1700 blk. Grace Ave.: Suspect left his unsecured handgun in an unlocked and unattended vehicle. Cited.

300 blk. Orchard City Dr.: Victim and Suspect got into a verbal argument. Suspect then pulled Victim out of his car by force. Suspect was seen fleeing and evaded marked patrol vehicle's attempt to conduct an enforcement stop. Suspect eventually stopped and was determined to be DUI. Booked.

900 blk. W. Hamilton Ave.: Suspect and Victim met at the parking lot of the business to sell a motor. Suspect defrauded Victim out of \$130 then fled the scene in a vehicle. Report.

1200 blk. Dell Ave.: An unknown Suspect threw a ball hitting Victim in the head. Victim desired prosecution. Report.

1700 blk. Grace Ave.: An unknown Suspect entered Victim's unlocked vehicle and stole a Smith and Wesson 9mm handgun and range bag containing ammunition. Gun was entered into the Automated Firearms System (AFS). Report.

E. Hamilton Av./SB Hwy 17: Suspects' vehicle was captured on camera. Suspect 1, driver, was under the influence of a CNS stimulant, was in possession of meth, drug paraphernalia, stolen mail and credit cards, and had used a victim's credit card to make a purchase. Suspect 2 was under the influence of a CNS stimulant and in possession of stolen mail. Booked.

North First St.: (CPD): Suspect walked into the secured parking lot of CPD by following a phlebotomist who had arrived for a separate investigation. Suspect was determined to be too intoxicated to care for himself and was placed under arrest.

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WEST VALLEY COLLEGE SPORTS

By John Vlahos

Are you aware that West Valley College boasts one of the premier athletic programs in? Since 2014, the Vikings have won a state championship in women's water polo, have had 3 state champion swimmers, 4 state runner-up finishes in men's water polo, state runner-up finishes in basketball and volleyball, and 2 state runner-up finishes in the beach volleyball pairs tournament. Additionally, Viking athletic teams have won 29 Coast Conference champi-

earn more than 31 units per academic year on average.

Many of the West Valley College head coaches are products of the community college system, making them relatable to our student-athletes as they were once in the same place as our current crop of student-athletes. Women's water polo coach, Erika Vargas, made history as the first female head coach to win a state championship in water polo in 2021. West Valley alum and current softball



onships in that time. As of this writing, the men's basketball team sits as the #1 ranked team in California.

With a focus on academic excellence, athletic competitiveness, community engagement, and capital improvements, West Valley College is an ideal destination for student-athletes looking for an opportunity to compete at the college level while keeping the dream of a Division I scholarship alive. Boasting 5 men and 7 women teams, Viking athletics offers a diverse offering of programs suited to meet the needs of the community.

Viking student-athletes also find success in the classroom. Two recent graduates gave the Valedictorian address at their respective commencement ceremonies, one of which was named the California Community College Athletic Association's Scholar Athlete of the Year. Several student athletes have been recognized as Academic All Americans at the state and national level. The women's tennis team has been named an Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Academic Team three four straight years, from 2020-2023. The overall athletic department g.p.a. is above a 3.0, while Viking student-athletes

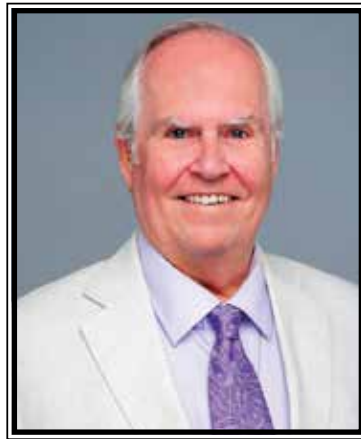
coach, Vicky Piatt, represented the United State of America in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Basketball coach, and WVC alum, Danny Yoshikawa has served as an assistant coach at 3 NCAA Division I institutions, including top 20 St. Mary's College of Moraga. Another West Valley alum, Men's water polo coach Willo Rodriguez, serves as the head coach of the Puerto Rico national team.

Additionally, West Valley College is home to many of the best athletic facilities in the country. One of the country's most spectacular softball facilities, Viking Field, opened in Spring 2022. The beach volleyball facility is the envy of all and rivals any complex in the United States. Valhalla Park, home to the West Valley College baseball team, celebrates its great opening January 26, 2024. Lastly, thanks to the community's passing of Bond Measure W, West Valley College will soon begin to plan and break ground on a new Wellness Center that will provide access for all.

For more information about the West Valley College athletic department or to view a calendar of upcoming events, please visit www.athletics.westvalley.edu. Come out and support our teams!

YOUR HOME AND AGING

By W. Gene Hunt, Realtor
Cal DRE 01124702



We typically buy a home to live in and build memories. Though many hope to buy their "forever home", most aren't thinking of the inevitability of our bodies aging and how this will affect us through time. It's always best to talk with professionals when making plans for the future, hopefully this article will give you some ideas to talk about to ensure the home remains the right place for you as you grow older.

First, there's always the legal issues to consider. Ideally we'll all live long and healthy lives but the reality is we're all going to end this life at some point and, when that happens, what do we want to occur with the assets we worked hard to accumulate during our life time? Frequently, the issue of putting our Real Estate into a Trust becomes a part of the conversation. A Trust allows the property to

be handled without involving anyone outside of the property owner's hopes. The property owner designates a Successor Trustee who then handles the property by following the wishes of the deceased in their will. This is a cheaper, quicker way of dealing with the certainty of a life ending. Without a Trust, the property is then probated and that can involve unknown persons as well as become expensive in money and time.

Long before that eventuality, though, are the issues of our bodies and, for some, our mental abilities changing. In some instances, owners wanted and bought a two-story home but, over time those stairs can be challenging on older knees. Perhaps the installation of a small chair lift becomes desirable or necessary. Even if stairs aren't an issue, step-down rooms become problematic, especially as our eye-site changes. Many hoped to garden after retiring but found they no longer have the energy or ability to care for the yards. So, who will take care of the regular maintenance required on a home... especially if the children have moved away?

There's going to be those whose bodies hold up pretty well while their mental capacities have di-

minished. From simply forgetting things, like taking required medicines, to more severe issues of dementia, help is likely necessary. Some homes may need modifications to address some of these problems. Phones, calendars, etc. are available with larger font sizes to make it easier to read. In-home help can be arranged. Do the stove top handles need to be removed? We baby-proofed our homes when our children were born, shouldn't we age-proof homes for seniors as well?

It's likely that we're all going to leave our home at some point. When that time comes, what sort of care will be needed and is available. There are a few facilities available in Campbell that offer varying levels of care. That care, however, will cost money. What has been done to ensure those costs can be handled when the time comes?

Contacting a financial planner, Trust Attorney or other professional is recommended. When and if it comes time to dispose of the home, a good Realtor, someone you can trust, can make that transition smoother too. If you have any questions, thoughts or requests for service, please contact me. (408) 887-4731 or email to geneshomes@earthlink.net

CVMF HAPPENINGS

Continued from page 4

and active-duty personnel. As such, the college gave CVMF Board member Harold Hervey the opportunity to participate in their Marine Corps Birthday ceremony.

Captain Hervey recounted a page in Marine Corps legend that spanned "from the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli." when Lt. Pressley O'Bannon and a squad of Marines restored the Prince of Tripoli to his rightful place on the throne. The Prince awarded the Mameluke Sword to the Lt. as a show of gratitude.

The celebration includes cutting the birthday cake, and there is no better way to cut a Marine Corps birthday cake than using a Mameluke Sword. To the audience's delight, the Captain cut the cake and presented the first slice to Sergeant Timmothy Rodrigues, the youngest Marine present.

CITY NEWS UPDATES

Continued from page 7

Scozzola, and myself, as well as County Librarian Jennifer Weeks, all of us donning hard hats, grabbing hold of golden shovels, and digging into a symbolic patch of earth. Of course, the Measure O project represented the culmination of years of effort and leadership by others including former Mayors/Councilmembers Jeff Cristina, Liz Gibbons, Paul Resnikoff, and Rich Waterman, as well as the many community volunteers who supported the passage of the bond measure, including Friends of the Campbell Library. Major credit also goes to Public Works Director Todd Capurso and the many city staff and contractors who worked on the project, including firms Jayson Architecture, Griffith Structures, and Lathrop Construction Associates.

Since the library downtown was closed in preparation for the renovation, Campbell residents have made the temporary location at the Campbell Community Center bustle with activity. Library staff have brought back many of the popular programs that were hosted at the previous location, in collaboration with city staff who have worked to find rooms for library patrons to take part.

MONEY MATTERS

Continued from page 6

Whether it is with our money, health, or relationships, we can all sometimes let our emotions take over. From my experience, awareness is really the key. Once you are aware of "why" you are doing something, you can decide whether to keep doing it or replace it.

My schedule is still wonky and my exercise is still not consistent. Some days I still like to snack, but I fill the fridge with healthier snacks since I know I will indulge.

Hope you found this valuable, Have a money management question?

Email me: livinbalanced52@gmail.com

Want more tips? visit my website www.livinbalanced.com

Nonetheless, the renovated library will be a welcome sight for our city. With Measure O, Campbell residents will have a beautiful building and community hub — one which will serve not just our current needs, but those of future generations of residents of all ages.

This column is written by Sergio Lopez in an individual capacity and does not necessarily represent the views of the entire City Council, city staff, or the City of Campbell.

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HAPPY
New
Year



HAS ANYONE SEEN THE DOG?

By Matthew C. Howe



You may have noticed for several months now a giant 'prairie dog' statue on a hill at the Los Gatos Creek County Park that overlooks the southbound highway 17 freeway entrance. The nearly 6 foot tall prairie dog is standing on its hind legs peering out over the vista. He (or she?) appears to be watching over the road and blessing you for your trip south. I told myself I had to get over to see it one day and I finally did. (See photos) I have heard several stories about this lonely hill-top critter, and I am not sure if any of them are true. The Nextdoor Neighborhood app is good for a lot of that "rumor has it" kind of stuff. One story was that it was a wood carving done by a local artist. Another that it was a commissioned work for an art project that was later scrapped. A third, that it was stolen by rodent-hating teens who knocked it down

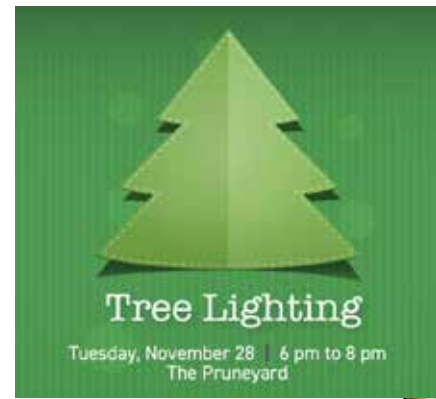
breaking it in half and then tossing it into the creek below. Another that it was smashed and destroyed into small pieces by a team of drug-induced homeless men. And last but certainly not least, it is a politically driven environmental statement supported by none other than Greenpeace. 'Wow' to that one.

Though I don't have any of the answers for regarding its true origin, let me at least clear a few things up for everyone. First off, it's not made of wood, and it wasn't created by the local artist named in a few posts I read. It appears to be made of some sort of lightweight concrete. Secondly, after a bit more examination, it doesn't look like it was broken in half, however there are a few places around its midsection that could be an indication of a repair job. If so, the patchwork matches pretty well in style, type, and color, so I am guessing the artist who created it must have been the one who repaired it. Thirdly, it is rather heavy object on top of a steep berm with a deep gully to get to it from the west making me think it wasn't easy to get it up there in the first place, and probably just as difficult to get down, and to "break it in half, and toss it in the creek" would not be an easy feat. It would take several strong men. I also read someone saw its

decapitated torso "floating" in the creek. It's concrete. Concrete does not float last I checked. So, my point here is that it wouldn't have been an easy thing to transport up to that spot, having to cross a deep gully and climb a steep hill to get up to where it stands, and it surely weigh hundreds of pounds. It once only had ceremonial river rock surrounding it but now there is a minimal amount of concrete spread around its base that is clearly on the homemade side of things. There is most likely enough there to prevent it from falling down and being easily knocked over. But hey, please leave the prairie dog alone! I like whatever it's meant to symbolize, and I think it's pretty cool. If anyone has any "real" info on this character please email us at thecampbellpress@gmail.com and fill us in! You never know, it just one day may be as iconic as the Campbell Water Tower.



Prairie dogs seem to be the curious type.



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