

THE CAMPBELL



PRESS

2023 Business of the Year

thecampbellpress.com

334 E. Campbell Ave, Campbell, CA. 95008

VOL. 06 No. 5

YOUR #1 COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION SOURCE!

APRIL/MAY 2026

FREE

Campbell Chamber Hosts 'Celebrate Campbell' Mad Hatter Themed Fundraising Event



Citizen of the Year Derek Ives

inspired by Lewis Carroll's classic tale, brought a festive energy to the gala, where hats and costumes of all shapes and sizes adorned attendees and set the tone for an evening of celebration, recognition, and community pride.

From the moment guests arrived, they were greeted by a kaleidoscope of color and creativity, as tables decorated in

Alice-in-Wonderland motifs and dueling pianos played out guest requests during cocktail hour. The event's highlight was the presentation of the Chamber's annual awards, honoring those who have made significant contributions to Campbell's thriving business and civic community in 2025. As guests mingled, sipped signature "tea party" drinks, and posed for photos in their imaginative outfits, anticipation grew for the announcement of the evening's winners.

This year's **Business of the Year Award** went to **Water Tower Kitchen**, a beloved local restaurant known for its commitment to community involvement. They accepted the award with humble gratitude. The restaurant has become a go-to for special events and its welcoming atmosphere has made it a favorite among residents and visitors alike.

The **Citizen of the Year** honor was awarded to long-time volunteer **Derek Ives**, whose volunteering dedication to organizing literally "anything" and mentoring others has made a lasting impact in Campbell. "Derek would be seen volunteering at every single event. He is always helping out" stated one local resident.



Business of the Year Water Tower Kitchen

The evening also recognized three Campbell High School students that received scholarships for their efforts. "Our future is bright when we invest in our young people," said

another attendee, smiling amid applause.

In addition to the award presentations, the Mad Hatter event featured auctions benefiting Campbell Cares, a non-profit organization that supports local scholarships and the annual Christmas toy program. The event wrapped up with dancing and laughter, leaving guests buzzing with excitement and appreciation for Campbell's strong sense of community.

For more information on this annual event, memberships, and other chamber activities go to www.campbellchamber.net/.



Past Chamber President Dan Orloff and Executive Director Ken Johnson host the event

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



BASKETBALL COURTS AT CAMPBELL PARK

PHOTO © MATTHEW C. HOWE

Just a Little Bit of History

By Susan Blake, Campbell Historic Preservation Board

The March mystery photo was taken of one of the half circle decorative stain glass windows under the eaves at 84 North Third Street. This Queen Anne Heritage house was built in 1874. It was the first home of J. C. Ainsley. He purchased it from a Civil War window in 1887.

The house originally stood on a 7-1/2 acre ranch at the NE corner of Winchester and Campbell Ave. While still a bachelor, Ainsley experimented with canning fruit in a shed on the ranch. The Campbell Union Grammar school district purchased the property in 1921.

The district moved the house to the rear of the property to make way for the new school buildings. During the Depression, the district sold the house to the only bidder, Antone Ferro, the school's Janitor, who paid \$150 for it. Mr. Ferro moved



the house through the orchards using telephone poles and horses to its current location.

Here is the mystery photo for April. This plaque represents an historic event that took place in Campbell. Do you know where it is located?

WORD OF THE MONTH

“DEFENESTRATION”

[Dee-fen-es-stray-shun]

NOUN

The act of throwing a person or thing out of a window. A swift or violent removal of someone in a position of power.

THE CAMPBELL PRESS

Published monthly by
THE CAMPBELL PRESS

334 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell, CA 95008
Phone: (408) 374-9700

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HAPPENINGS

Campbell Museum Spring 2026 Happenings

Museum Volunteers Make History Happen!

The Campbell Museums are proud to recognize the amazing dedication of our volunteers, whose efforts keep local history alive and available to the community. In 2025 alone, museum volunteers contributed an impressive 8,110 hours of service, which is nearly four full-time staff members!! Museum volunteers demonstrate a remarkable commitment to preserving and sharing Campbell's history. Volunteers play a vital role across all areas of museum operations. The Campbell Museums continue to welcome new volunteers and encourage anyone with a passion for community, history, and service to get involved in our history.

Checkout our Volunteer webpage to learn more <https://www.campbellmuseums.com/volunteer>

Or contact Kerry Perkins at kerry@campbellca.gov

Museum Members Make Memories

Becoming a member of the Campbell Museums is more than a simple sign-up—it's an investment in preserving the community's shared history. Membership contributions directly support this public trust institution, helping care for and protect thousands of donated items. In return, members enjoy a range of benefits that make participation both meaningful and fun. Perks include discounted tickets to popular museum events, access to holiday programs, and a 10% discount in the museum gift shop. Whether you're supporting preservation efforts locally or exploring museums across the continent, joining the Campbell Museums is a meaningful way to connect with history—at home and beyond.

For Museum Membership information visit <https://www.campbellmuseums.com/membership>

History Happy Hour at the Ainsley House

Come learn, inquire, and enjoy! Sip a drink, explore fascinating stories from the Valley's past, and connect with history in a relaxed, fun atmosphere.

- May 15: Stick 'Em Up
 - Museum researcher, David Blinn, presents an exploration of the early days of law enforcement in Campbell and how order was established in a growing orchard town.

\$25/ person | 5:30pm -7:30pm | [Campbellmuseums.com](https://www.campbellmuseums.com)

And, don't forget to check our website for future History Happy Hours coming in August through November. Tickets will go on sale mid May!

Calling All Artists!

The Campbell Museums' Biennial Art Show returns in 2026 for its fourth exhibition — and this year's theme is “Home.”

What does home mean to you? A place, a memory, a feeling, a landscape, a community? We invite artists to explore and interpret this theme in bold, thoughtful, and unexpected ways.

This is a juried exhibition, with strength of concept and interpretation of the theme serving as the primary selection criteria. Artists are encouraged to create new work inspired by “Home,” though existing pieces that powerfully capture the theme are also welcome.

Submissions open through Mid May

Guidelines can be found at the museum website: [Campbellmuseums.com](https://www.campbellmuseums.com)

Children's Writing Contest

The Campbell Museums are

Continued on page 9



HERE'S HOWE

The Rise and Fall of Campbell's Live Music Scene: From Golden Era to Quiet Streets

A Look Back at Decades of Rhythm, Rebellion, and Reflection

Campbell, California, once echoed with the sounds of guitars, drums, saxophones, and applause, its vibrant live music culture was a hallmark of the city's identity throughout the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Today, with only one established live venue standing, locals reflect on the city's storied past and the series of events that led to the silencing of its stages.

During the late 1960s, Campbell emerged as a hotspot for live music, fueled by the energy of the era and a burgeoning youth culture. The city's downtown streets hosted iconic venues like The Bodega and Smokey Mountain, where aspiring musicians cut their teeth and seasoned performers drew crowds from across the Bay Area. Genres ranged from folk and rock to jazz and blues, with acts such as Dave Mason, The Doobie Brothers, Elvin Bishop, Neil Young, Johnny Winter and even Boz Skaggs—legends to be seen. These venues were more than stages; they were the home for many local bands and community gathering places, fostering friendships and a sense of belonging. I know. I was there.

By the early 80's, Campbell's live music scene began to face challenges. While the popularity of concerts brought prosperity, it also attracted larger crowds and, at times, streets closed and traffic rerouted by Campbell PD with some unruly behavior. A few high-profile incidents—includ-

ing a stabbing one night and a series of late-night disturbances outside club doors—prompted concern among residents and city officials alike. The tipping point came after a particularly troubling night in 1983 when property damage and police intervention made headlines. The city responded swiftly, imposing stricter noise ordinances, curfews, and licensing requirements for venues hosting live performances.

The city's crackdown had immediate and lasting effects. Many beloved venues were forced to close, unable to comply with the new regulations or afford the increased insurance premiums. Musicians relocated, and the once-thriving local culture faded, replaced by quieter streets and fewer opportunities for creative expression. The loss extended beyond the music itself, affecting local businesses that depended on concertgoers and diminishing the city's reputation as a cultural music hub.

Despite some sporadic attempts to revive the live music scene in Campbell, resurgence remained elusive. Stringent municipal policies, rising rent costs, and shifting demographics created barriers for new venues and artists. The city's focus on residential development and noise control left little room for the spontaneity and energy that once defined its nightlife. Additionally, changing

Continued on page 10



More pics from Celebrate Campbell Fundraiser



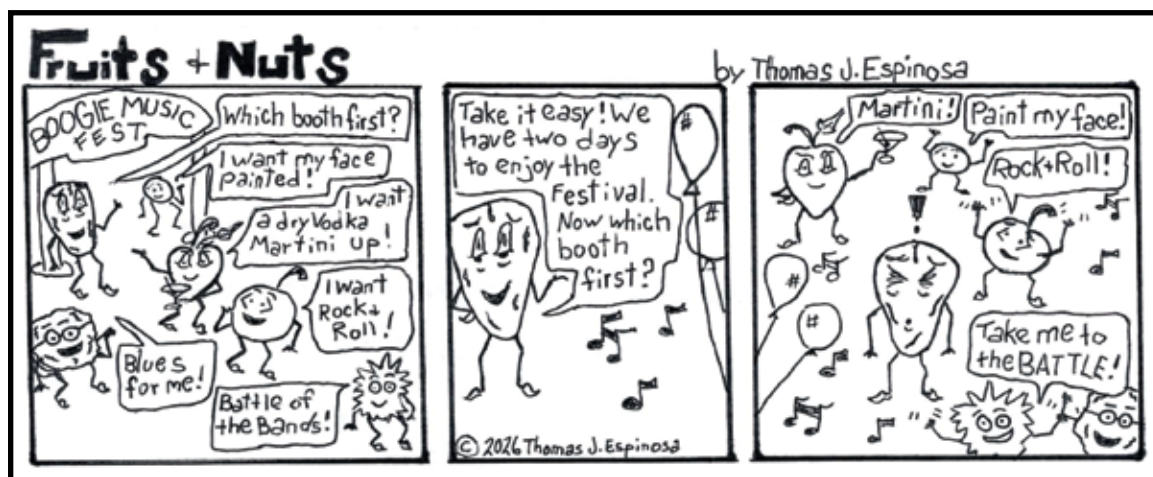
Police Officer of the Year Bonnie Brannen



Volunteer of the Year Frank Dean



Dueling pianos played our favorite songs



PUBLISHER NOTES

By Nancy O. Whitney

Spring has moved through mild April days and is now ushering us toward the warmth of summer. It has already been a busy season for our community—and it is only getting busier. That is exactly why this issue combines both April and May, capturing the many events that began mid-April and carry us right into the exciting weeks ahead.

So, what has been happening?

We begin with the Campbell Chamber of Commerce Citizen and Business of the Year Dinner, held March 21. It was truly a grand evening, filled with celebration and community pride. The theme was a hit, and we invite you to revisit the evening by checking out our front page, where we proudly highlight this year's honorees once again.

Looking ahead, preparations are already underway for one of Campbell's most anticipated traditions—the Fourth Annual Car Show, taking place June 6. Registration officially opened on April 10, and excitement is building as we look forward to welcoming an incredible lineup of classic and modern vehicles spanning decades.

And of course, we cannot forget the ever-popular Boogie Festival. This year's event expands into two dates and promises to be bigger than ever, featuring three stages, a lively Kids Zone, a Community Stage, and a vibrant stretch of artists and vendors lining the streets. With attendance typically drawing between 40,000 to 60,000 visitors, it is a testament to the thoughtful planning and coordination between the Chamber and our local police department that the weekend remains both safe and enjoyable. It continues to stand out as one of Campbell's most cherished family-friendly events.

On the entertainment front, The Campbell Press is proud to announce a new partnership with the emerging community radio station

KPJS 101.9 FM. Station owner Marla Davies joins us with her new feature, Marla on the Street, debuting in this issue. Her column invites community voices to weigh in on what they want most from a local radio station—an exciting way to connect directly with our readers.

In addition, we feature an insightful piece by Dana Jang covering the Radio Hall of Fame and its upcoming nominees—an opportunity for readers to participate and vote.

In March, Sid Thompson shared his second story about legendary drummers, featuring Ginger Baker of Cream—a name that resonates with longtime fans. Readers will also enjoy his upcoming series highlighting another local, yet very famous drummer. We encourage our music professionals to share their stories about Campbell's music history, reaching back to the 1970s and 1980s. In our next issue, we will also feature more about one of Campbell's best-kept secrets, Soundtek Studios.

In tandem with this musical journey, the Campbell Historical Museum is looking to create a nostalgic display celebrating that same era. Community members are encouraged to contribute items that help bring those decades to life.

So, we invite you to explore this April/May issue of The Campbell Press and discover everything happening in and around our community.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has called, written, and shared story ideas, neighborhood updates, and feedback. Your voices shape what we do. To our loyal supporters, dedicated writers, growing readership, advertisers, and subscribers—this publication exists because of you. It is our privilege to keep our community informed, connected, and engaged through local news and entertainment.

APRIL

CAMPBELL REAL ESTATE

APRIL



Call Janie Kelly of Realty One Group Infinity today for additional information on properties listed. If you are considering listing your home, Janie will gladly prepare a no-obligation property value analysis on your property. 408-915-7755 CA DRE #01217039

ADDRESS	SALES PRICE	B/B	AGE	LOT SIZE	SQ. FT
SOLD/CLOSED ESCROW, SINGLE FAMILY HOMES					
Denver Drive	\$2,000,000	3/2	68	6882	1144
Linda Drive	\$1,875,000	4/2	64	6693	1191
N. Central Avenue	\$1,808,000	3/1	125	7000	1056
Page Street	\$1,710,000	3/3	1	3360	1471
Pamlar Avenue	\$3,250,000	3/1.5	71	9750	3181
Norin Court	\$2,625,000	4/2.5	73	9100	2157
Arroyo Seco Drive	\$2,375,000	5/3	72	12155	2311
S. San Tomas Aquino	\$2,165,000	4/2.5	42	6800	2410
Connie Drive	\$1,850,000	3/2	65	6100	1199
Shamrock Drive	\$1,506,000	3/1	76	8100	1140
SOLD/CLOSED ESCROW, CONDO/TOWNHOMES					
Valley Forge Way	\$5,750,200	2/1	47		840
Union Avenue	\$432,000	1/1	47		704
Lottie Lane	\$2,150,000	4/3.5	9		2100
Union Avenue	\$1,240,000	3/2.5	39	1058	1537
Union Avenue	\$1,000,000	2/2	43	657	1346
S. Bascom Avenue	\$885,000	2/2.5	37	436	1392
Apricot Avenue	\$780,000	2/2	46	1165	1187



Enhanced Veterans Memorial Grounds

The Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation (CVMF) proudly announces the completion of significant enhancements to the Veterans Memorial grounds adjacent to City Hall, culminating nearly two years of planning, design, and community collaboration.

The revitalized space honors the spirit of service and quiet reflection. Beneath the Memorial's historic olive tree, once surrounded by bare earth and fallen leaves, visitors will now find a striking landscape of aquamarine pebbles and white dolomite gravel. The tree remains untouched, however, standing tall and dignified, framed by a serene, shimmering setting that invites quiet retrospection.

This transformation creates a peaceful and welcoming environment that complements Campbell's City Hall and the new library on City Green. The upgraded grounds are more than an aesthetic improvement; they serve as a renewed tribute to the men and women who have served our nation and the community that supports them.

"This enhancement reflects our ongoing commitment to preserving a place where citizens and veterans alike can gather, remember, and find a sense of pride and calm," said Harold Hervey, CVMF's President. "We encourage all of Campbell to stop by, enjoy the new surroundings, and experience the Memorial's renewed sense of purpose and tranquility."

Visit. Reflect. Remember.

NASCAR ain't got nothin' on these boys!



Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation

CVMF is pleased to start revving up 2026 with the energy and purpose that carried us through an eventful 2025.

The Board gathered for our Annual Retreat on February 20 at the Double Tree Hilton in the Pruneyard. It was a grand venue befitting the important occasion, allowing the team to discuss and review our 2025 efforts and plan our projects and programs for this new year. *Keep your eyes and ears peeled for more news and updates.*

Based on the commitment and hard work they exhibited last year, the CVMF Board voted to renew the Duties and Charters of the current slate of Officers, as outlined herein.

OFFICERS

Harold Hervey - President
Liz Gibbons - Vice President
James Clark-Moore - Secretary
Phil Alne - Treasurer

Frank Jewett - Public Relations
Zac Houchen - Social Media

BOARD MEMBERS

Ken Estep - Co-Founder
Dan Furtado - Co-Founder
Nancy Whitman

The Board was pleased as punch to attend the 2026 Celebrate Campbell Gala on March 21 at the elegant Canary building downtown. Hosted by the Campbell Chamber of Commerce, the **Mad Hatter Ball** showcased Campbell's movers and shakers, prominent businesspeople, and local politicians. All were decked out in their finest evening attire, supple-

mented by Mad Hatter-themed costumes and baubles. Copious amounts of fun, food, good cheer, and libations flowed all evening. In short, it was an evening to cherish and remember.

The Board was exceptionally proud to celebrate **Frank Jewett's** designation as our 2025 Veteran of the Year. As one of CVMF's co-founders, Frank has been tireless in his dedication to our Mission for the past 18 years; this overdue award lends vibrant testimony to those efforts.

Memorial Day Celebration
 Monday, May 25, 2026



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
 CAMPBELL VETERANS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC.

The Olive Tree

We are delighted to have **Major General Kent Hillhouse (Ret.)** as our Keynote Speaker, along with a few other important leaders and honored guests. We'll also have the Del Mar High School Orchestra, the Marine Corps Color Guard, and the Scouts of America. Stand by for more news in the near future.

Rev Up Your Donation Groove
 Saturday, May 30, 2026

Gold Star Father and CVMF Board Member **Ken Estep** will participate in a hot, exciting, and vibrant virtual car race you can watch and enjoy online.

This is the brave new world of action-packed eSports at its best.

Ken will represent CVMF at the event by getting into his real cockpit with real pedals, real brakes, and a real steering wheel, and haul his souped-up Mustang GT3 car around a virtual track. **FAST!**

Your support will help raise funds for our local veterans. People can join the race, watch the event, and donate to the cause. *See details and QR codes above.*

NASCAR ain't got nothin' on these boys!

BOXING

Private Lessons

The Contenders Gym LLC

110 Martin Ave. Santa Clara 95050

408-980-9849

By Appointment Only



By Ann O'Neill

Welcome to the month of April, where spring has arrived, and flowers are blooming. We have had the Easter holiday, and I wanted to mention a few observances.

On April 22: Earth Day, also National Park week: April 20-28, free admission to National Parks. We will honor National Volunteer Month. We appreciate all our volunteers at our AARP organization. Thank you all for your hard work to keep this organization going. We couldn't do it without you all.

Senior Safari Pre-Registration will be hosted from Monday,

April 27, to Wednesday, April 29, in the Happy Hollow Entry Plaza. Come pre-register and enjoy the park with free admission. Parking is free for Senior Safari participants at 748 Story Road across the Bent Bridge from the entry.

Memberships are due for 2026 for the AARP Campbell Chapter 5151.

Donations are always welcome for our opportunity drawing. Thank you to those who have donated in the past.

Our Speaker for the April meeting is Jane Mark from the Open Space Authority. She will speak about taking different hikes and walks in Santa Clara County. Sharon Levin will talk about our trips that will be coming up this year.

We are still in need of someone to take over the treasure chest and book table.

Please contact Ken Schieck for any of the positions that are available that you might be interested in helping us with at our Chapter. We would love to have you join our organization. We have a great group!

Our next meeting will be on April 21st, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m. Our social time starts at 9:30-10:00. Come join us for good conversation, a cup of coffee, and don't forget the treats. **Our meeting is held on the 3rd Thursday of the month! All Are Welcome. Bring your friends and neighbors!**

Looking forward to seeing you there!

BIG NEWS: The Farm Fun Fest is Coming to Town! 🎉

Looking for the ultimate Saturday plans? Grab the kids, call the neighbors, and head over to the Westmont High School Farm for a day of sunshine, smiles, and community spirit!

When & Where
 Date: Saturday, May 9th
 Time: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 Location: Westmont High School Farm

What's Happening?
 We've got something for everyone—from the little ones to the "young at heart"! The best part? Admission, food, and entertainment are all FREE!

- 🏠 **Jump Around:** Huge bouncy house for the kids!
- 🎮 **Game On:** Classic carnival games with fun prizes.
- 🐾 **Cuteness Overload:** Get up close and personal at our Petting Zoo.
- 🍔 **Free Eats:** Delicious food to keep the whole family fueled up.
- 🌾 **Farm Facts:** Meet local agriculture organizations and learn cool secrets about where your food comes from!
- 🌟 **Fun for All Ages!**

Whether you're here for the animals, the games, or just to enjoy a beautiful day on the farm, we can't wait to see you there. Pro Tip: Tag a friend in the comments who needs to join your "farm squad" this weekend! 🌟

#FarmFunFest #WestmontHigh #CommunityVibes #FamilyFun #SupportLocalAg



Campbell Recreation Center Activities!

Summer Camps, Swim Lessons & Preschool Registration Now Open

The 2026 Summer Preview is now available online and highlights a variety of Campbell Recreation summer camps and swim lessons. Registration is currently open for summer camps, swim lessons, and preschool classes for the 2026–2027 school year. Early registration is encouraged, as programs fill quickly.

The Summer Preview and full Summer Activity Guide will be combined and available in print this April. Registration for summer classes begins May 5 for Campbell residents and May 6 for all others. View the Activity Guide online at www.campbellca.gov/activityguide. Register online at www.campbellca.gov/register.

Lifeguarding Academy (Ages 15+)

The City of Campbell will offer two Lifeguarding Academy sessions this spring. The April session runs April 10–12 and April 17–18, and the May session runs May 8–10 and May 15–16. Registration is now open. For more information or to register, visit www.campbellca.gov/aquatics.

Part-Time Employment Opportunities

The City of Campbell Recreation is currently hiring lifeguards for summer and year-round positions. Applicants must be at least 15 years old, and prior lifeguard certification is not required. Additional openings are available for facility attendants and recreation instructors. To view current job opportunities and apply, visit www.campbellca.gov/jobs.

CAMPBELL EXPRESS LAST DAY OF SERVICE SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH

CAMPBELL LIBRARY GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION SATURDAY, MAY 9TH 10AM

www.sccid.org/campbell

Downtown Campbell Public Parking

Skip the Circling. Park Smart.

Downtown Campbell offers 1,000+ free off-street public parking spaces. The First Street Garage is conveniently located just 2 blocks from the center of Downtown and typically has available spaces – even during peak times.

Downtown Campbell offers:

- Two well-lit public garages
- Multiple surface lots
- Free parking
- EV charging
- VTA Light Rail station
- Bike lockers and racks

You can find more information on Downtown Campbell parking, events, and promotions by visiting downtowncampbell.com



Downtown Campbell Public Parking

MAP KEY

- P Free Parking Lot
- P* Free Parking Lot After 5pm Mon–Fri
- P** Free Parking Lot Available after library hours
- P Free Parking Garage
- Park
- EV Charger
- Bike Locker

MORE CAMPBELL BUSINESSES

T I R E G U S E D I S B A L S S A
 N O R A D X B I S H O P S C C M R
 E P U R B A N P U F F L I O A O E
 T R O L L W I T H O G T V I B K B
 E O R A T S A L U M A E A D N E M
 B C H U E Y O U R N S C K U O O U
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 B A L P M A E H T U I O O M R Y E
 X N O I T A T S A V V Y B I K E A

- BALLOONATICS ROADSPOET FLORRA FLAWLYS WAX FABU SALON
 REGUS PEETS TECHCARE MERAKI STUDIO STATION X REDEMPTION
 SAVVY BIKE URBAN PUFF TRUE SOUND SMOKE OUTLET ECONOMY
 LUMBER THE AMP LAB SLABSIDES HEROES TOBE TENT
 SALUM BISHOPS REPS STEEPERS BOMBSHELL

Words can be diagonal and backwards too! How many MORE words can you find?



If you would like to be part of the solution in helping those facing food insecurity,

please visit www.hungerathome.org
 #peoplehelpingpeople



Campbell Chamber of Commerce

Get Ready to Boogie: Campbell's Beloved Music Festival Returns May 16-17

Downtown Campbell is about to come alive. Boogie Music Fest will be turning up the volume on **Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17, 2026**, transforming Historic Downtown Campbell into a two-day street party packed with live music, great food, and fun for the whole family.

What began in the late 1970s as the Prune Festival, a nod to Campbell's roots as a major fruit-producing and canning hub, has since evolved into the musically-focused Boogie Music Fest that draws crowds from across the region. This year's event promises to be bigger than ever.

Four stages of live music will fill the air both days, spanning country, rock 'n' roll, blues, pop, Top 40, classic rock, and more. For the second year, Boogie will have a dedicated DJ stage, with local DJs bringing their unique beats to Downtown — a fresh addition to an already packed lineup.

There's plenty beyond the music, too. Over 120 artisan booths will showcase handcrafted goods from talented local artists and craftspeople, while Business Row features local companies offering festival specials and complimentary services. The KidsZone brings rock climbing walls, giant slides, face painting, arts and crafts, magicians, and more, making it a true family outing. And on Sunday, the Community Stage will host the 2nd annual Battle of the Bands — a can't-miss showdown of some of the

South Bay's most talented young musicians.

Voted one of the Best Local Music Festivals by Metro readers in 2024, Boogie has earned its reputation as a community institution. Whether you're a longtime attendee or a first-timer, this is one May weekend

worth clearing your calendar for.

For entertainment schedules, vendor information, shuttle details, and more, visit campbellboogie.com.

Boogie Music Festival | Historic Downtown Campbell | May 16-17, 2026 | Free Admission



Money Empowerment *by Jill*



Simple Financial Systems Can Ease Tax Season Stress

As the tax filing deadline approaches, many taxpayers find themselves scrambling to gather documents for their accountants. Financial professionals say the stress often stems not from taxes themselves, but from a lack of organization throughout the year.

Preparing for taxes can feel overwhelming when receipts, statements, and income records are scattered or incomplete. However, experts note that maintaining an effective financial system does not require complicated tools or advanced accounting knowledge.

A few consistent habits such as keeping records in one central location, organizing documents regularly, and maintaining simple tracking methods can significantly reduce last-minute pressure.

Beyond saving time, proper financial organization may also lead to savings. Business owners and individuals with side income frequently overlook deductible expenses when records are incomplete. Missing write-offs can increase taxable income and reduce potential refunds.

What Accountants Need

In most cases, tax accountants require a clear yearly summary showing total income earned and expenses categorized according to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) guidelines. Accurate categorization helps streamline tax preparation and reduces the likelihood of errors or delays.

Individuals operating businesses or side hustles typically have additional expense categories and should consult their tax

professional or review guidance available at irs.gov.

Choosing a Tracking Method

For many taxpayers, a simple spreadsheet is sufficient for tracking income and expenses. Those with higher transaction volumes may benefit from financial software such as QuickBooks, which automates categorization and reporting.

W-2 employees without business income can maintain basic spending records using spreadsheets or budgeting apps. Financial documents can be stored electronically by creating folders organized by year and category. Others may prefer traditional paper folders for hard copies. Professionals emphasize that consistency matters more than the specific system used.

Start Now for Next Year

Financial organizers recommend creating a system that is practical, easy to maintain, and capable of providing accountants with complete information when tax season arrives. When records are organized throughout the year, preparing for a tax appointment typically takes no more than 20 to 30 minutes.

For those without an existing system, the period immediately after tax season is an ideal time to begin. Establishing new habits now can ensure taxpayers are ready as soon as documents arrive next year well before the filing deadline.

If you are needing assistance with financial organization you can reach out to me.

Contact: Jill
livinbalanced52@gmail.com



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Fax: 408-423-8111
info@westernpropertygroup.com

Location
1050 Saratoga Avenue
San Jose, CA 95129



CITY NEWS *By Sergio Lopez*

Earlier this month, I was heart broken by the passing of my friend and mentor Rod Diridon Sr.

To many of my friends and family, the name “Diridon” was taken for granted — a part of the fabric of Santa Clara Valley. Many times I explained that Diridon, a name that could seem larger than life, was not just a real person — but someone I had the chance to get to know personally, who had an impact on my life as on so many others.

I met Rod around 2019, during my first campaign. Because of my support for environmental issues, Rod was an early supporter and advisor, and, during Covid, he swore me into office at my first Council meeting. While I treasured that bond, my story was absolutely not unique, as Rod served as a mentor and inspiration to many hundreds of different public servants throughout the region.

Rod Diridon, Sr. had deep ties to the West Valley and affection for Campbell. In his 20s, he was a Saratoga City Councilmember, and, after serving two years, was the youngest member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. A the youngest, he said, he was given the hardest assignment: creating a public transportation system to connect and serve the entire county.

To be around Rod was not just to come into contact with a local living legend. It was to come away energized with the conviction that government could still do big things — that ordinary people could dream into existence something that wasn’t there before, something that would connect all of us, something that might one day even be taken for granted, which wouldn’t be a failure but a success in that what was once thought impossible had become ordinary. That was because Rod

had done all of that before, connecting all of us through establishing the transit agency which became VTA.

When I took over as Chair of VTA, it was a passing of the torch, from a previous longtime county leader who had served for decades to myself, the youngest person to serve in that role in the agency’s history. Rod was right there by my side. He understood that to be able to serve your community through public service is an honor but also an obligation, to do all that you can in the time that you have in order to move your community forward.

His urgency came from the fact that despite all his achievements, Rod was never focused on the past. Instead, he was relentlessly focused on what was next and how much work remained to be come, including his passion of connecting the West Valley through rail, going from the current end of the line in Campbell at Winchester and connecting the rest of the West Valley region — work which he would ask me about nearly every time I saw him, and work I’m proud to carry forward.

One of the last conversations we had reflected this spirit, and it was on the need to hire someone to bring into being a new vision for Diridon Station to fulfill its promise of being the Grand Central of the West — nothing less than that would ensure that the residents of this Valley can one day get the station we all deserve. His language was fiery, but no one doubted it came from a place of deep love for Santa Clara County, and his conviction that there is always more work to be done.

Hope to do you proud, Rod.

Sergio serves as Councilmember for Campbell and Chair of VTA. This column reflects his individual views only.

DISTRICT NEWS



By Susan Ellenburg

My colleagues and I did not compete in Milan, slaloming down mountains at mind blowing speeds or landing perfect triple lutz/triple loop combo/triple axels on the ice (go Alysa Liu!). No, Santa Clara County is not a team of Olympians. . .but I have the audacity to suggest we accomplished Olympian-level fiscal feats during our mid-year budget adjustments, identifying about \$200 million in savings to mitigate the impact of federal cuts while preserving essential services and protecting jobs for County employees.

While it’s not typical to make such drastic adjustments to our budget midway through the fiscal year, we did so this year because the federal government’s cuts — which were announced in July after we approved our fiscal budget in June and will result in \$1 billion revenue losses over the next few years — are forcing us to act in real time. Most of the savings we found came from eliminating about 305 funded positions, all of which were vacant or had expiring grants. About 60 employees will move from their current positions, which will be eliminated, to similar roles in the organization.

These savings, paired with the anticipated revenue from sales tax Measure A and several proposed revenue-

generating, cost recovery measures, cut our anticipated deficit for the upcoming fiscal year from \$800 million to \$270 million. Which means, however, even with the big adjustments we made in February, there will be more to come in May.

This conversation is part of a larger balancing act. That \$270 million anticipated deficit will be even harder to close since we have just eliminated nearly every vacant position in the County. H.R. 1’s impacts will grow and multiply over the coming years and paradoxically, as people lose access to health care and nutrition and housing support, their situations will become ever more dire . . . and they will be ever more reliant on County services.

While my decisions may not be popular, they will be transparent and will be based on publicly available information. In order for me to do my job, I have directed administration through a number of referrals to provide considerably more information regarding contracts, expenditures, and a breakdown of internal and external facing costs. I need to know not only what dollars are being “saved” but what that means in terms of programs and services for clients, patients and other individuals who are connected to County systems (health care, foster, child wel-

fare, criminal-legal, etc).

The department with the most positions reduced, as recommended by County Administration, was Santa Clara Valley Healthcare at 231; the County receives fewer Medi-Cal reimbursement dollars under H.R. 1, and so we have less health care funding. Only 48 of those positions are filled, and each affected staff member will fill a similar position in lieu of layoffs.

Other affected departments include behavioral health services, with about 42 fewer positions and custody health with 26. Similar to the health system, County administration proposed all of these reductions to limit federal budget cut impacts on residents as most of the positions are empty. The department of tax and collections will also be reduced by 35 primarily vacant positions because of a nullified contract agreement.

While I don’t relish making these reductions, these savings today should soften the impact of the deeper cuts that are coming as more provisions of HR 1 go into effect.

Santa Clara County may not be bringing home the gold from Italy, but we are a tour de force when it comes to financial stewardship and protecting our residents. To me, that may be worth a medal.

City Council & Planning Commission News



By Adam Buchbinder

The Planning Commission has seen several meetings cancelled this year for lack of agenda items, but this primarily reflects a lack of discretionary projects moving through. For example, there are at least four current SB 1123 projects, which replace a single home with a collection of up to ten small houses, and which don’t even come before the Commission. (Campbell in fact had the first SB 1123 project in the state, and has been a leader in encouraging the use of this law.)

However, our scope of work is not solely to make decisions about and hold hearings on

discretionary land use questions; we are empowered to propose policy and investigate improvements. There’s an economic development subcommittee this year, and I, along with Matt Kamkar, am working on housing streamlining. While Campbell has made great strides in encouraging housing production, we’re only on track to hit about a quarter of what we’d planned for, and so we’re looking at reasons that might be. The subcommittee is currently weighing three main options.

First, as described in last month’s column, unfunded inclusionary zoning mandates

(where developers are required to essentially donate a percentage of their projects) are facially appealing: they cost the city nothing and they seemingly increase the number of subsidized lottery units available. But in practice, they lead to less building, and, counter-intuitively, fewer subsidized units. The subcommittee recommends reducing or eliminating these requirements.

Second, the structure by which we fund certain capital projects is by taxing new housing with “impact fees”. In theory, this is intended to produce new infrastructure which new residents would be using, but in practice

it has been used to refresh and maintain existing infrastructure. As with IZ mandates, it’s politically appealing, but has practical downsides, again by making it harder to build. The subcommittee recommends using alternative means of funding these projects.

Lastly, many projects brought before the Planning Commission appear discretionary, but the city is bound by state law to approve them as proposed. The subcommittee recommends running these projects through a much faster, simpler ministerial process. The city would not be losing any

discretion, just allowing the process to reflect the reality.

All of these proposals will go through debate at the Planning Commission level, and of course must also be approved by the City Council. This is a snapshot of the current state of the debate.

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. Read more about our Multimodal Plan at campbellca.gov/multimodal.



Marla on the Streets of the Bay

By Marla Davies, "Voice of Silicon Valley"

I'm excited to partner with The Campbell Press on this new feature, especially because it comes at the same time we're building something close to my heart: a new community radio station for the South Bay, KPJS-FM, where I serve as Operations Manager and Program Director.

The Campbell Press is a natural partner. Our missions align, we're here to serve the community.

So for this first installment, I headed out to Downtown Campbell, first on a dreary Wednesday afternoon in front of Orchard Valley Coffee, then again on a sunny Saturday during the Bunnies and Bonnets parade to share news of KPJS and ask people a simple question:

What do you want to hear on your local radio station?

The response? Overwhelmingly positive.

festivals, free movie nights and theater. "One of the benefits," she noted, "would be hearing about things before they happen, not after."

Melinda, also from San Jose, echoed the call for connection. "If the station is truly tied to the community, that would be great, especially here in the South Bay." She suggested practical updates too, like local farmers markets or even timely news like a restaurant's last days or our beloved Pruneyard Cinemas staying open.

Lisa from Cambrian Park kept it simple: music matters. "I'm a rock girl," she said. "But my husband likes country, so maybe a little variety. We also love Americana."

Connie from South San Jose offered a different perspective entirely, she doesn't listen to the radio at all, preferring her own collection of 1960s music on CD. "Why?" I asked.



"Because I'm old," she laughed. The same answer could come from someone younger who chooses to listen to music on Spotify, but community radio is still more than music, it's about human connection.

And then there's Michael from San Jose, who remembers the golden days of local radio, KIDD 63 in Monterey, KPIG (which is still live and local in Santa Cruz County), KDON, KWSS. For him, a new community station in South Santa Clara County feels like the perfect fit.

"There's an eclectic audience here," he said. "In one word? Yahtzee. A total win."

We hear you.

At KPJS, our goal is to be all of these things and more. To inform, to connect, and to reflect the unique spirit of the South Bay. Keep in touch and get involved kpjsradio@gmail.com. If you want to donate KPJSradio.org.

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Turn it up, South Bay.**



With so much consolidation in radio and longtime stations disappearing, people were genuinely excited by the idea of something new, something live, local, and rooted in the community.

Teri from San Jose told me she'd love to hear more about neighborhood happenings and university life, especially from San Jose State and the goings-on in downtown San Jose.

Elaine from Campbell, a devoted NPR listener, said a community station would be a welcome addition, with one caveat. "I'd like to know what's going on locally, community issues and events, but not so much Washington politics. I think a lot of us are tired of that."

Susan from San Jose emphasized discovery. She wants to hear about things people might not otherwise find, local authors, book reviews, small-venue concerts, food



**Orchard City Community Chorus Presents
"Inspirational Broadway"**

The Orchard City Community Chorus cordially invites you to "Inspirational Broadway," an evening of uplifting musical entertainment. The concert takes place **Saturday, May 30, at 7:30 PM** at the Campbell United Methodist Church, 1675 Winchester Boulevard, Campbell.

Under the direction of Michael Taylor, the ensemble will journey through scores from blockbuster Broadway shows ranging from *The Lion King* to *Ragtime*. Accompaniment will be provided by Crista Lovis and the lively OCCB Band, with featured selections by small vocal groups. Attendees are invited to enjoy our signature bake sale during intermission (cash only).

Tickets are \$25 and are available now at www.orchardcitychorus.org and at the door. (Youth under age 12 are free.)

APRIL MOVIES

By Sam Wilson



The Super Mario Galaxy Movie – C

High-speed animated sequel loaded with vibrant visuals and nostalgia at the expense of a coherent story. Mario (Chris Pratt, "Mercy"), Luigi (Charlie Day, "Horrible Bosses"), Yoshi (Donald Glover, "The Martian"), Princess Peach (Anya Taylor-Joy, "The Menu"), and even Bowser (Jack Black, "Anaconda") team up after Bowser Jr. (Benny Safdie, "Oppenheimer") kidnaps Rosalina (Brie Larson, "The Marvels"). The narrative lacks meaningful moments, consisting of cameos and fan service.

Project Hail Mary – B+

Heartfelt sci-fi adventure seamlessly blending comedy with serious science. Based on the renowned book from Andy Weir (The Martian), a science teacher (Ryan Gosling, "Barbie") alone on a spaceship is the last hope to save humanity from a mysterious substance killing Earth's sun and other surrounding stars. Boasts strong creative talent in director duo Phil Lord and Christopher Miller (21 Jump Street, The Lego Movie) and writer Drew Goddard (The Martian, Cloverfield). Despite the dire stakes, it's a wholesome buddy comedy with impressive practical effects.

Ready or Not 2: Here I Come – B

Not as fresh as the 2019 original hit and a tad formulaic yet still a bloody fun satire. Grace (Samara Weaving, "Babylon") is forced to play another game of hide n' seek, this time hunted alongside her sister (Katheryn Newton, "Freaky") by four rival families. The Radio Silence director team Matt Bettinelli-Olpin and Tyler Gillett (Scream VI, Abigail) return, upping the carnage while juggling extreme violence with dark humor. Elijah Wood (The Toxic Avenger), Sarah Michelle Gellar (Cruel Intentions), and Shawn Hatosy (The Faculty) co-star.

The Bride! – C+

A misguided reimagining of the "Bride of Frankenstein" that's effectively Frankenstein meets "Bonnie and Clyde". In 1930s Chicago, Frankenstein (Christian Bale, "The Fighter") asks Dr. Euphronius (Annette Bening, "American Beauty") to create for him a companion (Jessie Buckley, "Hamnet"), and together they go on the run pursued

by two detectives (Penelope Cruz, "Ferrari", and Peter Sarsgaard, "The Batman"). A bold, weird and erratic punk-style feminist vision from actress turned writer-director Maggie Gyllenhaal (Secretary) following her debut feature "The Lost Daughter".

The Drama – B+

A provocative pressure-cooker drama exploring moral compromise that's tense and uncomfortable while never feeling stagnant. A happy couple's relationship unravels during their wedding week when a drunken game of "worst things I've ever done" reveals a dark secret. Robert Pattinson (Mickey 17) and Zendaya (Challengers) are excellent playing flawed and complex characters facing a moral dilemma. A rollercoaster dark comedy-romance that's thoughtfully crafted with creative editing and direction.

Hoppers – B+

Pixar's best film in a decade is perky, energetic, and genuinely hilarious. A 19-year-old animal lover uses a technology that places her into a realistic robotic beaver in order to guide the animals back to the local forest glade to save it from the Mayor (Jon Hamm, "Tag"). The unique animated tale mixes the typical Pixar emotional depth with a bonkers "Avatar"-style premise.

They Will Kill You – C+

Forgettable action-horror-comedy inspired by Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez offering nothing original of its own. A woman (Zazie Beetz, "Deadpool 2") takes a job as a live-in housekeeper in a luxurious Manhattan high-rise, soon discovering it's a death trap run by a satanic cult. The derivative "Kill Bill" and "John Wick" wannabe B-movie mayhem is balls to the wall, gory, and highly stylized. The cast includes Patricia Arquette (Holes) and Heather Graham (Bowfinger).

Undertone – C

A single-setting, low-budget supernatural horror snooze-fest from a first time director that's slowly paced, lacking thrills, and filled with cliché genre tropes. A popular paranormal podcast host caring for her dying mother becomes haunted by mysterious recordings. The minimalist one-woman show narrative has strong sound design but is thinly plotted with a disappointingly anticlimactic payoff.



MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

Continued from page 2

inviting local kids to tap into their imagination. We are launching of the “A Tale From My City” Children’s Writing & Illustration Contest, a new creative opportunity inviting children to explore and celebrate the place they call home. The contest encourages participants to tell stories inspired by their city—whether drawn from real-life experiences, local history, or entirely imaginative adventures.

Open to two age groups—children ages 4–7 and youth ages 8–17—the contest welcomes a wide range of storytelling styles. Participants may create works of fiction, such as magical adventures, superheroes, or talking animals, or nonfiction stories based on personal memories, favorite local places, or family histories. Kids are encouraged to think about what makes their city unique, from favorite landmarks to stories of the past or even imagined characters who call their city home.

Entries must submit either a picture book, comic book, or a graphic novel and include at least six pages. Each submission should combine both words and illustrations, which may be drawn, painted, or created using mixed media. For younger participants, stories may be dictated and written down by an adult. All entries must be original, and the use of AI tools is not permitted.

To be considered, each submission must include a completed entry form along with signed permissions from a parent or guardian. Required information includes the student’s name and age, parent or guardian contact details, and the title of the story. Permissions must also allow for photographs and for the display and reproduction of the work in print and online formats.

For more information, visit <https://www.campbellmuseums.com/childrenswritingcontest>

Upcoming Museum Events:

- May 15 History Happy Hour at the Ainsley House
- June 20 Recycling and e-Waste event at the Ainsley House

Campbell Free Summer Concerts Concessions

This summer, the Campbell Museum Foundation is bringing both flavor and fundraising to the city’s concert series at the Orchard City Green. During eight free concerts running from **July 9 through August 28**, visitors can stop by the **Foundation’s concession booths**, conveniently located near the Ainsley House Carriage House. From 5 to 8 p.m., concertgoers can grab beer, wine, sangria, soda, hot dogs, chicken skewers, burgers, and fries while enjoying live music in the heart of Campbell. All proceeds from the concession sales directly benefit the Campbell Museums. So bring a blanket, enjoy the music, and stop by for a bite and help keep history happening.



Friday, May 1
7:30pm
Iconics

Saturday, May 2
4:00pm **Ruth showcase**
7:30pm **HOOTENANNY**

Tuesday, May 5
6:30pm
Jokers

Wednesday, May 6
6:00pm
Eurotrash

Thursday, May 7
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, May 8
7:30pm
Seven Shades of Gray

Saturday, May 9
7:30pm
Jukebox Boyz

Wednesday, May 13
7:00pm
First Call

Thursday, May 14
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, May 15
7:30pm
Electric Velour Band

Saturday, May 16
7:30pm
Whole Shot

Wednesday, May 20
6:00pm
The Factory

Thursday, May 21
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Saturday, May 23
7:30pm
Jinx Jones

Wednesday, May 27
6:00pm
HOOTENANNY

Thursday, May 28
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, May 29
7:30pm
Joint Chief's

Saturday, May 30
7:00pm
The Turnarounds

Sunday, May 31
6:00pm **KATE WEIR MUSICAL CANCER FUNDRAISER**

Wednesday, June 3
6:00pm
Eurotrash

Thursday, June 4
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, June 5
7:30pm
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POPPY JASPER FILM FESTIVAL TURNS 20: A SERENDIPITOUS CELEBRATION OF FILM, MUSIC, AND SOUTH BAY COMMUNITY

By Dana Jang

Radio Hall of Fame/Columnist for The Campbell Press

When the 20th Anniversary Poppy Jasper International Film Festival (PJIFF) opened in Morgan Hill this April, its gala soirée captured everything that has allowed this once-modest event to grow into one of the South Bay's most vibrant cultural traditions. What began in 2004 as a small community showcase named after the region's rare poppy jasper stone has evolved into a multi-city, internationally recognized festival—one now celebrated for its inclusivity, global reach, and unmistakable hometown warmth. For many attendees, this year's milestone carried a special sense of reunion. For me, it felt like a homecoming woven from familiar faces, shared history, and the enduring heartbeat of Bay Area music and media.

Under the leadership of Festival Director and CEO Mattie Scariot, a Gilroy native whose vision has transformed PJIFF since 2018, the festival has expanded into Morgan Hill, Gilroy, Hollister, and San Juan Bautista. It now attracts filmmakers from more than 30 countries and has earned national recognition, including a spot on MovieMaker Magazine's list of the "Coolest Film Festivals in the World." Despite

its growth, PJIFF remains rooted in community storytelling. Its programming highlights women that feels both international and deeply local.

My invitation to the gala came from Marla Davies, a former radio colleague and current PJIFF Board Member. Her long-standing commitment to grassroots media—including her work launching a low-powered FM station in San Martin—reflects the festival's dedication to elevating local voices.

The night quickly became a tapestry of unexpected reunions. A few attendees recognized me from the documentary *Y & T: On The Show*, where I appear in an on-camera interview. That connection felt especially meaningful this year, as the festival honored the legendary Bay Area rock band Y&T with its Icon Award.

Their influence rippled through the weekend. For Campbell residents who grew up spinning their records or catching their shows, the award was a long-overdue tribute to a band that helped define the Bay Area sound.

Another familiar face emerged in the crowd: Randy Spendlove, a longtime supporter of PJIFF and someone I first knew from our days at San Jose's KSJO. Years ago, I interviewed his father, Bill Spendlove—

then General Manager of KLOK—for my MBA dissertation on the radio industry. Later, Randy sought my help as he pursued a role at A&M Records, a step that launched him into a distinguished career in music and film. Today, he supports the festival not only as an industry veteran but as someone who grew up alongside Scariot in Gilroy, sharing her passion for uplifting local artists.

Although Y&T received their Icon Award earlier in the week, their presence lingered throughout the gala. Known for hits like *Summertime Girls* and for influencing major rock acts throughout the '80s and '90s, the Oakland-born band remains a cornerstone of the region's musical identity.

PJIFF's tribute—complete with a live musical homage at the VIP pre-party—felt like a celebration not just of the band, but of the Bay Area's creative lineage. For me, knowing my voice appears in their documentary added a quiet, full-circle resonance to the evening.

A South Bay Success Story

As PJIFF celebrates its 20th year, it stands as a testament to what vision, persistence, and community spirit can achieve. From honoring rock icons to elevating new voices in film, the festival continues to grow

Continued on page 11

Before the Song "Two Tickets to Paradise"

By Chris Jackson
"Mayor of Silicon Valley"

With all this rain we've been having, you're probably feeling what Eddie Money was feeling the day he wrote, "Two Tickets to Paradise." He wanted sun! When he wrote it, he didn't have enough money to go to Hawaii, so he decided on going somewhere he could get to riding a Greyhound Bus.

From his videos, we know Eddie as a saxophone player, but Eddie took piano lessons as a little kid in school. He wrote "Two Tickets to Paradise" on a little piano at his home in Oakland. He even remembers the exact spot: Ma-

nila Ave. in north Oakland. The two tickets were for Eddie and the young lady he was dating. He wanted to take her up to the Redwoods.

So, how was "paradise?" Eddie never found out. As he said on my radio show, "She wound up dumping me before it happened!" Given that Eddie played the song at every one of his concerts after that, I guess you could say Eddie ended up crying... all the way to the bank. ☺

Chris Jackson can be heard on 98.5 KFOX weekdays 9am-2pm

KKUP's Annual Jazz Marathon Returns This April

By Dana Jang

The Bay Area's jazz roots run deep, reflected in festivals from SFJAZZ and Monterey to San Jose Jazz Summer Fest and Healdsburg Jazz. It's a region where jazz remains a living part of the cultural landscape.

That same spirit fuels **KKUP 91.5 FM's Annual Jazz Marathon**, airing **Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19**. This year's broadcast includes a special tribute marking the 100th anniversary of Miles Davis's birth, celebrating his ground breaking influence—including the unforgettable moment when **Miles invited Sly Stone to open for him**, a pairing that helped push jazz into bold new territory.

Across the weekend, KKUP's volunteer DJs

will feature classics and deep cuts from Miles, Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk, and many more. And for collectors, this year's **limited edition Jazz Marathon t-shirt features Oscar Peterson**, honoring one of the most beloved pianists in jazz history. The marathon is also KKUP's most important fundraiser. The station is **100% listener supported and entirely volunteer run**, and this event keeps commercial free community radio alive in the South Bay.

Tune in or donate at **KKUPFM.org**. The Jazz Marathon celebrates not only the music, but the community that continues to champion it.

HERE'S HOWE

Continued from page 2

tastes and competition from neighboring cities with more relaxed regulations made it difficult for Campbell to regain its former glory.

Now, only one established venue—Little Lou's BBQ (though about a mile from downtown) keeps the tradition alive with the ability to have a full band on stage, supporting the handful of bands still performing in the area. Some smaller restaurants host a few performers now and then, but nothing like before. A longtime resident recalls, "It used to be you could walk downtown

any night and hear music everywhere. Now, it's mostly quiet." The lone venue stands as a testament to resilience but also to the challenges of preserving cultural heritage in a changing community.

Campbell's lost music scene is remembered not only for its sounds but for the sense of unity it brought. While the city will never return to the era of packed clubs and legendary acts, the memories endure—and so does hope. As Campbell continues to evolve, perhaps a new generation will find ways to rekindle the spirit of live music, honoring the legacy of those who made the city sing.

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DIG IT...



with SAM

By Sharon McCray, UCCE Master Gardener

Rototilling or not?

Over the years gardeners have lamented whether or not their garden soil should be rototilled. One common remark heard over and over revolved around local farmers working their soil. Local orchardists did not rototile their soil. They used an attachment to their tractor called a "disc". This device had several flat plates that ran parallel to the surface of the soil. These plates were drug over the soil and literally sliced into the soil but not turning it.

By discing the soil, plants such as mustard, were worked into the soil. This method helped add more organic material into their orchards. As is the case of mustard, it also incorporates nitrogen forming roots as a

convenient fertilizer into our soil. Mustard was originally planted for the sole purpose of utilizing its naturally produced nitrogen.

Rototilling causes great disruption of the natural friability and structure of our soil. The lives of millions of healthy organisms, such as earth worms and nematodes, are disrupted - they are ripped out of the soil and flung onto the surface, where they will dry out and die. The entire process can destroy a healthy garden plot into a weed patch.

Another point is that seeds can lie dormant underground for decades. Once brought to the surface and exposed to sunlight, they can germinate. In one instance, I witnessed firsthand when a

75 year old asphalt surface in an abandoned drive-in movie theater was removed and the soil tilled. All of a sudden, weeds appeared that had not been seen in Santa Clara County in decades.

But, but, but....there are ways to incorporate organic material into your garden bed. Some of the methods can be challenging, such as double digging. This is an established method wherein, gardeners utilize a shovel and hand dig a trench along the area to be planted which is then filled with soil from the next trench. It is tedious and time consuming, not to mention back breaking, but if the health of your soil is important, double digging is a useful tool. It typically does not need to be done every season.

Each trench can be filled with compost or manures prior to the soil from the next trench being applied. By hand turning the soil, you have kept the friability and natural condition of the soil along with the all important structure intact.

Now, a disclaimer, if you have a large garden plot (lucky you!) sometimes there is no escaping the need to turn the soil with machinery. In this case, I always suggest that the rototiller be rented and not purchased. When we make investments in garden tools, we feel obligated to make regular use of them. While good in principle, it is not necessarily the best use of your garden budget.

Walking on our delicate soil can also cause compaction.

By forcing moisture and air, both life sustaining elements, from our soil we have created an unhealthy environment for plant growth. The 200 year old Oregon Trail, still visible from space today, is a classic example of soil compaction.

Structure is the natural arrangement and clumping of sand, silt and clay, the three key elements of soil. Rototilling destroys this natural structure and creates unbalanced areas within the soil.

I hope I haven't been too outspoken on this subject. My intention is to educate. Our soil is precious. Like the skin that covers our bodies, it must be protected. Protected from too much sun or water, from serious abrasion and from compaction.

Voting Opens June 1 for the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Public Invited to Vote with a \$5 Donation Supporting the California Historical Radio Society

The Bay Area's rich broadcasting legacy takes center stage once again as the Bay Area Radio Museum & Hall of Fame (BARHOF) announces the nominees for its **Class of 2026**. This year's ballot features **48 distinguished broadcasters** across six categories—each nominated by the public under BARHOF's longstanding rules.

For the first time, **any member of the public may participate in the voting** with a minimum **\$5 donation** to the **California Historical Radio Society (CHRS)**. Voting runs **June 1 through July 1, 2026**, and supports CHRS's mission as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated since 1974 to preserving and celebrating the history of radio and broadcasting in California.

Beginning June 1, voters can access the **"Donate to Vote"** ballot through the BARHOF website. Eligible voters also include previously inducted Hall of Fame members and current CHRS members.

This year's nominees span decades of Bay Area radio excellence—from engineers and managers to news anchors, sportscasters, specialty creators, and beloved on-air personalities. The Campbell Press is proud to support community engagement in this year's vote and is pleased

to offer **our endorsements** for the 2026 ballot.

Campbell Press Endorsements for the BARHOF Class of 2026

Engineering – Mike Danberger

A longtime Santa Clara resident, **Mike Danberger** has been a cornerstone of Bay Area broadcast engineering. As Chief Engineer for Empire Broadcasting under Bob Kieve, he oversaw KLIV, KARA, and KRTY—stations that helped shape South Bay radio for generations. Danberger also served as General Manager during the formative years of community station **KKUP**, where he remains on the Board of Directors. Many listeners will also remember him as "Storm Kennedy," cohosting KARA's morning show with Kim Vestal. His technical expertise and community commitment make him an outstanding choice.

Management – Dan Tapson

A graduate of Menlo Atherton High School and San Jose State University, **Dan Tapson** became the first Vice President/General Manager of **KOME**, the inaugural station in what would grow into Infinity Broadcasting. Under Tapson's decade of leadership, **KOME** rose to dominance—topping San Jose

ratings, driving revenue, and embedding itself into the cultural fabric of the South Bay. His stewardship helped define an era of bold, irreverent, and unforgettable radio.

News – Joe Regelski

From his early days as one of **KSJO's** first news directors, **Joe Regelski** built a reputation for credibility and creativity. His public affairs capsule "For What It's Worth" became a signature feature, and his talent soon brought him to **KOME** as morning news host alongside Program Director Mikel Hunter ("Lefty"). Regelski later teamed with Alex Bennett at **KQAK** "The Quake," and the duo helped launch **KMEL's** successful rock era. Today, he continues his commitment to local journalism as News Director and morning cohost at **KOZT** "The Coast" in Fort Bragg. His career reflects the very best of Bay Area radio storytelling.

Sports – Duane Kuiper

For nearly forty years, **Duane Kuiper** has been one of the most trusted and beloved voices in Bay Area sports. Since joining the San Francisco Giants broadcast team in 1986, Kuiper—paired with longtime partner Mike Krukow—has narrated the franchise's most iconic moments, including the World Series

Continued on page 12

POPPY JASPER FILM FESTIVAL TURNS 20

Continued from page 10

while staying true to its roots.

For one night in Morgan Hill, the celebration became more than a showcase of films. It became a gathering of people who have shaped the sound and stories of the Bay Area for decades—finally sharing the same spotlight. And sometimes, as this anniversary proved, the most meaningful reunions happen by serendipity.



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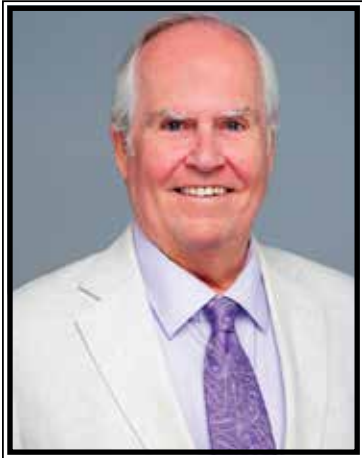
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By W. Gene Hunt, CalDRE 01124702
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Where We Stand



Its spring in Santa Clara County and the annual home selling market is in full swing... or is it?

This is the time of year when we see a growing inventory of homes for sale and that we are this year. We actually have more homes available this year at this time than we had in 2025 but not as many as in 2024. That growth in homes available for sale it typically accompanied by an increase in homes under contract with multiple offers pushing home prices higher. Statistics show that's not happening this year.

In fact, though prices do continue upward, we're not seeing multiple offers like we have in the past and we're watching the total number of properties under contract decline. Currently we have about 4% less homes under contract this year than we had last year at this time. We're not quite in a buyer's market, but there are opportunities.

For seller's its increasingly important to properly prepare your home for sale and to set your asking price based on the current market. While we all want the most for the home we're selling, now is not the time to set your price based on seller market activity. Now is when you should be listening to your trusted advisor with experience and knowledge in the local market.

There's yet another reason to turn to your Realtor. You're like most people who enter the Real Estate market and you're hearing a lot of different story lines, opinions and data points

resulting in data overload which can get in the way of you taking action. Now is not the time to put off your dreams; now is the time to make them come true. A good Realtor will be able to help you sort out the important issues from those with less impact upon achieving your goals.

Our market appears to be in a state of flux and seems to be changing. Staying focused on your goal is one way of capitalizing when the market is uncertain as to what direction it's going. A Realtor with experience and who stays involved in the market will help you secure the best deal for the home you're buying or selling.

I am that Realtor and you should contact me as soon as possible. You want someone on your side. By working with me, you'll find, as my past clients have, that there is no one more dedicated to your goals. Call or text me at (408) 887-4731 or email to geneshomes@earthlink.net.

South Africa's Most Unforgettable Sights and Experiences

By Susan Lola

South Africa is one of the most beautiful, diverse countries on earth. A world-class destination for every type of traveler. Connect with warm, welcoming and authentic people and leave feeling inspired, enriched and rejuvenated.



The Victoria & Alfred Waterfront in Cape Town is one of South Africa's most popular and vibrant destinations, offering a mix of shopping, dining, culture, and entertainment. Located in the heart of Cape Town's harbor, it boasts stunning views of the ocean and Table Mountain. The waterfront has transformed from a historic working harbor to a bustling commercial and leisure area, blending the old and new. Whether you're interested in shopping, dining, culture, or simply enjoying the views, the V&A Waterfront offers a little something for everyone!



Bo-Kaap (or Malay Quarter) is a vibrant and historically rich neighborhood in Cape Town, South Africa. Known for its brightly colored houses, cobble streets, and rich cultural heritage. One of the most iconic and picturesque areas in the city. A unique and culturally rich part of Cape Town, and it remains a symbol of the city's complex history, vibrant traditions, and the resilience of the communities that have shaped it over time.



The Garden Route is a stunning stretch of coastline along the southern shores of South Africa. Known for its diverse landscapes, it combines lush forests, pristine beaches, rugged cliffs, and charming towns. With a variety of outdoor activities, including hiking, wildlife viewing, and adventure sports. Notable stops along the way include Knysna, the Tsitsikamma National Park, Plettenberg Bay, Addo Elephant National Park and several quaint villages, making it a popular destination for nature lovers and those seeking a scenic road trip.



Robben Island, a UNESCO site off Cape Town's coast, was a prison for political prisoners during apartheid, including Nelson Mandela.

Today, Robben Island is a museum, offering guided tours that educate visitors about its history, the lives of the prisoners, and the fight against apartheid. Accessible by ferry, Robben Island remains a powerful symbol of resilience and the triumph of human rights.



The Winelands of South Africa are renowned for their stunning vineyards, charming towns, and world-class wines. The most famous wine regions include Stellenbosch, Paarl, and Franschhoek, all offering scenic landscapes of rolling hills, vineyards, and majestic mountain backdrops. Visitors can enjoy wine-tasting tours at historic estates, sample gourmet food pairings, and explore picturesque villages with colonial-era architecture. The Winelands also host wine festivals and events, making it a must-visit destination for wine lovers and those seeking a relaxing escape amidst beautiful scenery.



A safari in Kruger National Park, one of South Africa's most famous wildlife reserves, offers an incredible opportunity to see a vast array of wildlife in their natural habitat. Covering over 7,000 sq miles, Kruger is home to the "Big Five", as well as countless other species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and plant life. Visitors can enjoy game drives with experienced guides, either in open vehicles or on guided walking safaris, providing a more intimate experience with nature. The park offers luxury lodges, bush camps, and self-drive options, making it accessible to a range of travelers. With its diverse ecosystems, Kruger is one of the best places in Africa to experience the thrill of the incredible wildlife of the African bush.

More info:

<https://cplnk.us/s/qMcZ53pj>

Voting Opens June 1 for the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame Class of 2026

Public Invited to Vote with a \$5 Donation Supporting the California Historical Radio Society

Continued from page 11

championships of 2010, 2012, and 2014. His warm delivery, signature calls, and award winning work have earned him multiple Northern California Emmys and two finalist selections for the Ford C. Frick Award. Few voices are more woven into the Bay Area's sports identity.

Specialty – Jack Perry

A creative force behind some of the most memorable radio imaging in Bay Area history, Jack Perry transformed KOME's sound with his inventive, humorous, and offbeat production pieces. His work helped cement KOME as the region's rock leader. Perry later brought his talents to KSJO, KRQR, and eventually CBS San Francisco, where he contributed to commercial production for KLLC (Alice) and KCBS. His distinctive style and influence on station identity make him a standout in the Specialty category.

Performer – Marla Davies, Chris Jackson, and Bill Kelly

Marla Davies

Marla Davies arrived in San Jose to work in public affairs and weekends at KOME before moving to KEZR Mix 106.5, where she cohosted the popular "Bill and Marla" morning show with the late Bill Kelly. She later teamed with Jeff Pope for "Pope and Marla," continuing her legacy of warm, engaging morning radio. Today she can be heard on KALW in San Francisco and is preparing to launch a new FM station in San Martin, KPJS.

Chris Jackson

A fixture of San Jose radio, Chris Jackson has done it all—from Top 40 at KWSS to decades of classic rock at KUFX KFOX, where he earned the inaugural Sherwood Award from BARHOF. His resume includes shifts at KEZR, KBAY, and producing roles for the Greg Kihn and Lamont & Tonelli morning shows. Jackson's versatility and longevity make him one of the South Bay's most recognizable voices.

Bill Kelly


A pioneering FM morning personality, Bill Kelly first made waves at KWSS as half of the "Kelly and Kline" team. His career later took him to San Francisco's X100 before returning to San Jose and KEZR Mix 106.5, where he reunited with Al Kline and later partnered with Marla Davies. Kelly's humor, warmth, and professionalism left a lasting mark on Bay Area radio.

How to Vote


Voting opens **June 1** and closes **July 1, 2026**. Anyone may vote with a \$5 donation to CHRHS, supporting the preservation of California's radio heritage.

A link to the **Donate to Vote** ballot will be available on the BARHOF website beginning June 1.





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Campbell Crime Report



**Nellie Blye, Reporting
Aka Carol Gerwitz**

Redding Rd. (V) was told she had a warrant for her arrest and sent an unknown (S) approximately \$301. (S) is at large.

Ontario Ln (RP) (Reporting Party) advised the property which he manages was entered and squatted by an unknown (S), causing approximately \$7,300 in damage. (S) is unknown and at large.

Gale Dr. CPD dispatched to a report of a male (S) peeping at an apartment complex. Officers arrived on scene and contacted (S) who threatened officers and actively resisted. Arrested.

Winchester Blvd. CPD responded to a report of an agitated (S) inside a convenience store. (S) battered a 70-year-old (V) then fled to another store where he was contacted by police. (S) was non-compliant but was eventually detained in handcuffs and booked.

Llewellyn Ave. Unidentified (S1) and (S2) approached (V) demanding his money. (S1) used force in the attempt of a robbery. (V) fled on foot.

E. Hamilton Ave. (S1) and (S2) entered the store together, concealed merchandise and left

the store past all points of sale without paying. (S1) and (S2) were stopped together in a vehicle a short distance away. Both were cited and released.

Oak Rim Ct. (S) set multiple fires at different locations. (S) was identified by video surveillance and an in-field witness identification. (S) admitted to lighting the fires, stating she did it because she was emotional. Booked.

Redding Rd. (S) made criminal threats toward (V). Booked.

Union Ave. (S) pushed (V) approximately 5 feet, causing visible injuries to (V). (S) threatened he would "get her." After the disagreement, (V) discovered her tires were slashed.

W. Hamilton Ave. (S) arrived at the gas station and was threatening to fight people. (S) then threatened (V) with worse. (S) was determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance. (S) placed under arrest. While in the back of the patrol car, (S) threatened police officer.

More Ave. (RP) reported that (V) was hit by a classmate (S) as she walked away after being confronted. (S) was released to her guardian.

La Pradera Dr. (V) heard tires screeching and people laugh-

ing in front of her house. When (V) exited her house she saw a black sedan driving away and observed damage to the front of her vehicle. (S) is at large.

Hamilton Ave. (S) texted 911 making nonsensical statements. (S) was under the influence of a CNS stimulant and narcotic analgesic. Booked.

W. Campbell Ave. (S) was asked to leave the premises but refused. (S) delayed officers for approximately 45 minutes during the course of their employment. (S) was trespassing on closed public property and was advised that she was being placed under arrest. Upon approaching (S), she threw hot coffee on 3 out of 4 officers before being placed in handcuffs and under arrest. Booked.

S. Bascom Ave. (S) was reported as an unwanted subject and determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance and in possession of drug paraphernalia. Booked.

Burrows Rd. (V) pushed (S) causing an altercation where (S) grabbed (V) by her hair and brought her to the ground. (V) struck (S) two times in the face with her closed fist. After the altercation, (V) poured soda over (S)'s laptop. To DA.

Camden Ave. /Curtner Ave. A pedestrian stop was initiated for CMC violation. A records check of (S) revealed he had a misdemeanor warrant for \$10,000. (S) was provided an NTA and released.

N. 1ST St. (S) was contacted after walking into the CPD lobby and rambling and walking around, displaying objective signs and symptoms of being under the influence. (S) was determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance. Arrested and placed on a parole hold.

E. Campbell Ave. (S) was reported to have a gun; (S) was contacted and determined to have a concealed knife in his crossbody bag. (S) was issued a citation.

E. Hamilton Ave. (S) was reported to be removing security devices from items. (S) left the merchandise behind and fled in his vehicle. An enforcement stop was conducted and (S) was found to have an outstanding warrant for shoplifting. A search of the vehicle revealed presumed cocaine. (S) was determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance. Booked.

Winchester Blvd. (S) forcibly stole cigarettes from (V). Booked.

W. Campbell Ave. (S) fraudulently posed as a Finance CEO and coerced (V) into giving him \$70,000. (V) desired prosecution.

Apricot Ave. (S) was contacted after a report of criminal threats after (V1) stated he feared for his life. (S) was determined to be stalking (V2). Booked.

Winchester Blvd. (S) entered the store and stole a 24-pack of beer. Later the (S) returned to the store and stole approximately \$421.96 worth of flowers and deposited them at a statue. Employees of the business recovered the flowers. The business desired prosecution for the theft.

Capri Dr./Chapman Dr. (S) was contacted in backyard of (V)'s residence in violation of restraining order. Booked.

S. Bascom Ave. (S) was stopped after starting a fire and determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance and in possession of methamphetamine. Booked.

Michael Dr. (V) sent photographs and video of himself to an unknown (S) via telegram. (S) then told (V) they would post the videos and photographs online if not given \$500.

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**COUNTRY JOE McDONALD, 1942–2026

A Voice of Protest, A Soundtrack for the San Francisco Sound**

By Dana Jang *Campbell Press*

Country Joe McDonald — singer, songwriter, activist, and the irrepressible leader of Country Joe & the Fish — has died. His passing marks the end of a remarkable life that helped define the San Francisco Sound and gave a generation its most biting, humorous, and unforgettable protest music.

For me, his music wasn't just part of the era. It was part of my formation — as a listener, as a broadcaster, and as someone who came to believe deeply in the power of community radio.

The Sound That Came Through the Dorm Windows

I first encountered Country Joe & the Fish as a student at Santa Clara University. Walking past the open windows of Dunne Hall, I'd hear "Not So Sweet Martha Lorraine" and "Section 43" blasting from stereos tuned to KMPX in San Francisco. Those swirling organ lines and psychedelic textures were unlike anything else on the airwaves. They were a revelation — a signal that music could be adventurous, political, and deeply alive.

Those sounds followed me into my earliest days as a DJ at KSJO, San Jose's first progressive rock station. And

they followed me again when, in 1972, I helped found community radio station KKUP 91.5 FM in Cupertino. From the very beginning, KKUP embraced the music of Country Joe & the Fish. Their early EPs — including the original "I Feel Like I'm Fixin' to Die Rag" and "Superbird" — were staples of our free-form playlists, long before most commercial stations dared to touch them.

The uploaded document notes that the first Rag Baby EP was "the first self-produced recording to be used by a band as a form of promotion," containing the earliest version of "Fixin' to Die Rag" and Joe's satire of Lyndon Johnson, "Superbird." Those records fit perfectly into KKUP's mission: music that challenged, provoked, and inspired.

A Band Born of Berkeley's Fire

Country Joe & the Fish emerged from the political ferment of Berkeley in 1965. Joe McDonald, then editing his radical magazine *Rag Baby*, created a "talking issue" EP when he "ran out of material" and decided to press a record instead. The band's name — part Mao, part Stalin, part satire — was itself a political statement. Their early performances at the

Jabberwock coffeehouse and later at the Avalon Ballroom and Fillmore Auditorium helped shape the psychedelic scene that would soon define San Francisco.

Electric Music for the Mind and Body

Their 1967 debut album, *Electric Music for the Mind and Body*, remains one of the era's most important recordings. The document describes it as "a bold, powerful mix of blues, jazz, classical, folk, and rock elements, all with a mesmerizing psychedelic glow." Tracks like "Not So Sweet Martha Lorraine," "Masked Marauder," and "Section 43" became staples of progressive FM radio — including KKUP and KSJO — at a time when instrumentals rarely received airplay.

For young broadcasters like me, the album was proof that radio could be more than Top 40 singles. It could be a platform for discovery.

The Cheer That Shocked America

No moment defined Country Joe McDonald more than the infamous "Fish Cheer." Originally a playful "Gimme an F — I — S — H," it evolved into something far more explosive in 1968 when drummer Chicken Hirsh suggested changing

the letters to spell a certain four-letter word. The document recounts how the crowd at New York's Shaefer Festival roared the expletive back with such force that the band was promptly uninvited from future appearances — and even paid not to appear on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.

But it was Woodstock that immortalized the moment. Stranded performers, muddy fields, and a restless crowd set the stage for Joe's impromptu solo appearance. When he shouted "Gimme an F!" and half a million voices answered, it became — as the document puts it — "as if a rather large cross-section of America's youth was telling the world 'get stuffed.'"

The film *Woodstock* carried that moment around the world, turning "Fixin' to Die Rag" into an anthem five years after its first appearance on a home-made EP.

A Lifelong Activist and Reluctant Icon

After the band dissolved in 1970, Joe McDonald continued recording, performing, and speaking out. The document notes that he "became an almost mythic figure on the agit-prop scene," appearing wherever music could

challenge war, injustice, or government overreach.

He reunited with Barry Melton and other bandmates over the decades, especially during moments when the country once again found itself wrestling with war.

A Personal Farewell

Country Joe McDonald's music shaped my life in ways I'm still grateful for. From the dorm rooms of Santa Clara University to the studios of KSJO to the earliest broadcasts of KKUP 91.5 FM — a station built on the belief that community radio matters — his songs were always there.

They were bold. They were funny. They were political. They were fearless.

And they taught a generation of listeners — and broadcasters — that music could be a force for truth.

Country Joe is gone, but the spirit he embodied remains woven into the fabric of Bay Area music, community radio, and the hearts of everyone who ever shouted that cheer at the top of their lungs.

Rest in peace, Country Joe. You gave us more than music. You gave us courage.

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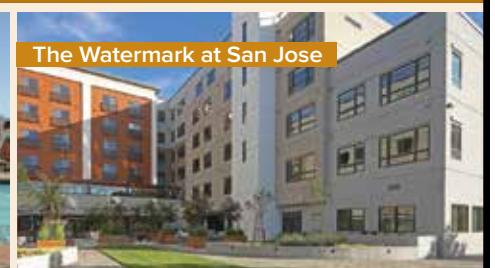
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