

THE CAMPBELL

2023 Business of the Year

thecampbellpress.com



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YOUR #1 COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFORMATION SOURCE!

JANUARY 2026

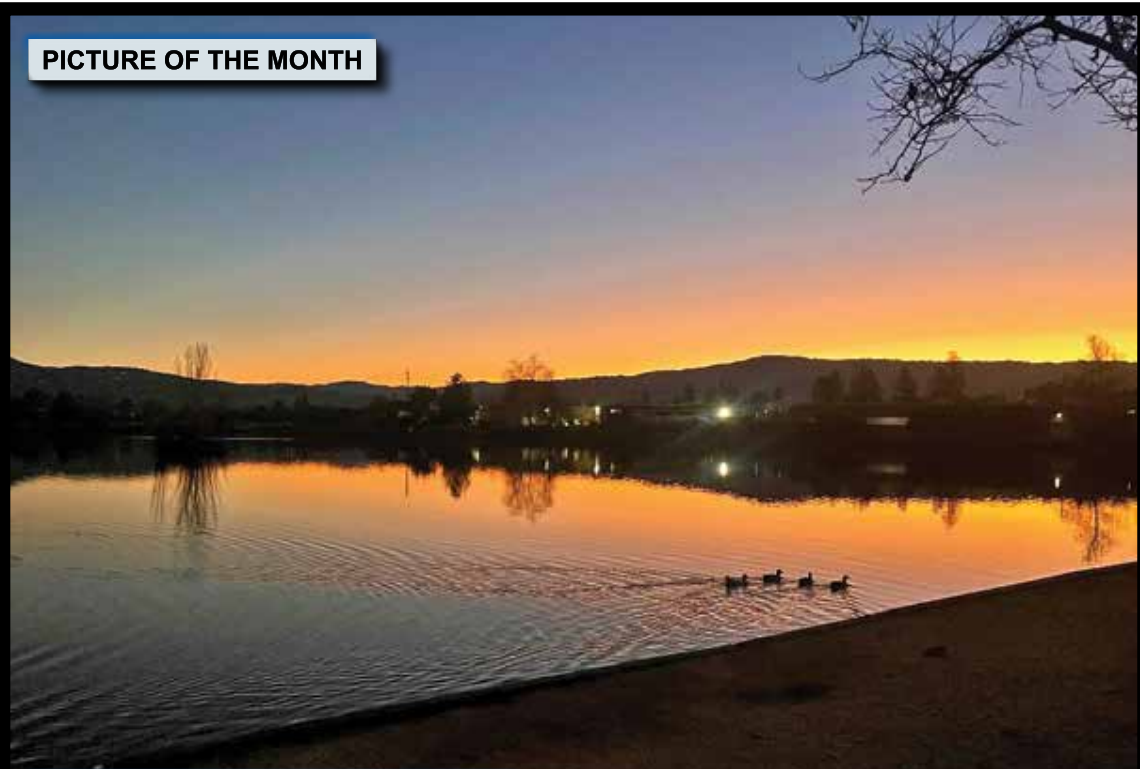
FREE

Campbell's Year in Review 2025



Starting top L-R: Santa arrives in style, DJ @Boogie Festival, St. Lucy's carnival, Ainsley Spout House development, Library dedication, Oktoberfest crowd, Creepy Crawly dancers, bassist in Neverland band, and Ainsley 100th year anniversary celebration.

PICTURE OF THE MONTH



LOS GATOS CREEK COUNTY PARK

CREDIT: CHRISTINA O'CONNOR

Just a Little Bit of History

By Susan Blake, Campbell Historic Preservation Board

The December mystery photo was taken showing significant details of this classic Queen Anne Cottage style home at 100 N. Third St. Built in 1899, it is like many Queene Anne houses in our city as it was moved from its original location. Originally it sat at the intersection of Central Ave and Campbell Ave on the southeast side. The house was moved in 1929 to make way for an auto repair and gas station.



Here us the mystery photo for January. See if you can figure out where this photo is located.

Happy New Year.

WORD OF THE MONTH

“ADIAPHORON”

[Ah-dee-off-or-ron]

NOUN

In theology and ethics
'a thing indifferent.'

A matter that is morally neutral.

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HAPPENINGS

The Campbell Museum 2026

Thank you to our stakeholders, supporters, visitors, volunteers, donors, museum members, and the Campbell community and beyond for making 2025 such a memorable year.

Together, we hosted engaging programs—from History Happy Hours and concerts in the Ainsleygarden to supporting City concerts and celebrating the **Ainsley House 100th Anniversary Gala**. We welcomed **3000+ students** for Hands-On History, expanded to **60+ active volunteers**, opened our new **From the Archives** exhibit, and received generous historical donations that help us tell Campbell's story.

2026 is shaping up to be one of our most exciting years yet. Here's a preview of what's ahead:

- **Public Art Show in the Carriage House**, June through October. Submissions are open.
- **New Exhibit Coming to the Historical Museum:** The History of Music in Campbell. This exhibit will focus on the importance of Music for recreation in the community from the earliest roots of a town band to the bands and clubs that fueled rock and roll history in the 60s, 70s, and 80s.
- **New Special Events & Community Celebrations:** Including expanded concerts, lectures, and family programs.
- **Ainsley House Field Trip will return for the 2026-2027 school year, for 3rd and 4th grades.**

Thank you for preserving the past and shaping the future with us. We look forward to a remarkable 2026 together.

Campbell Museums Announce Seasonal Closures, Membership Updates, and Volunteer Opportunities

As the year winds down, the Campbell Museums are preparing for important seasonal

updates and exciting plans for 2026. The **Historical Museum** will reopen much sooner—on **January 2**—just in time to kick off a new year of exhibits and programs. With 2026 on the horizon, the Campbell Museums are excited to usher in a vibrant, history-filled year. As part of our efforts to streamline services for museum supporters, we are **re-vamping our membership billing process**. Going forward, all memberships will renew and begin on a **calendar-year schedule**. Members can expect detailed information to arrive in **early January**.

We are also proud to highlight our **robust volunteer program**, which plays a vital role in sharing Campbell's culture and heritage with the community. As we continue to grow, we are actively recruiting new volunteers and invite anyone interested to reach out at **CampbellMuseumVolunteers@gmail.com**.

Steven's love of steam trains and tugboats inspired him to set *Top Connors* in San Francisco, reflecting his interest in the area's historic vessels and maritime past.

As a steam switcher tug on the autism spectrum, Top Connors relies on routines to get his jobs done. Changes can be unsettling for him, but with help from friends, he learns to manage and adapt. This is a reflection of Steven's own perspective. He says, "The stories I write are made up, but the views of someone who is on the autism spectrum is authentic."

Steven also shares his love of history as a docent at the Ainsley House. He guides tours with in-depth knowledge of the historic home, charming visitors with stories about its English.

Top Connors & Tillie is available through Raimondi's website at www.stevensteambooks.com.

HERE'S HOWE




Happy New Year Campbell! It seems that I have reported way too much on this subject in the last several months, but it's all too real. Too many restaurants and businesses have been struggling in our Campbell area for various reasons and it's a bit disheartening, though there appears to be light at the end of every tunnel. For every end there is a new beginning. On that note, the closing of Lyra (what was once 'Flights' restaurant on Central and Campbell) is not a total surprise. The restaurant almost seemed destined to fail before it opened with bigger plans than Campbell had money for, outpricing themselves out of the market. "It's too expensive" is what I heard from many patrons. Which basically meant they wouldn't be going back on the regular and that is not the way you're going to succeed here downtown. We need affordable universally acceptable food menus here. No one wants to spend \$200 and walk out unsatisfied. It was beautifully remodeled at a high cost, and the restaurant is apparently for lease as is, but we hear the monthly asking price needs to come down before anyone will take a 'bite.' A block away, Mo's also recently closed yet is soon becoming a Mediterranean-style restaurant called 'Sultan's Kebab.' I love a good Kebab! Looking forward to that. Opa's will remain a Greek-style restaurant called 'Elia' expected to open in the next month or so. This restaurant has had success with three other locations in San Carlos, Walnut Creek, and

Pleasanton and should be a nice addition to our Campbell landscape.

One of the most recent rumors that has now come true is the ex-Rock Bottom Brewery in the Pruneyard will soon be turning into another Laughing Monk Brewery! Laughing Monk brews some exceptional beer at their brewery/restaurants in Sunnyvale, Scotts Valley & two locations in San Francisco. This may become a new go-to spot in the Pruneyard and hopefully another long-standing restaurant like the 30-year run that Rock Bottom had. Speaking of the Pruneyard, the Pruneyard Cinemas is NOT closing after 7 years as was recently reported in the news. I remember the theatres were the very first business that opened in the Pruneyard back in the late 60's. It was a popular place to go on the weekends, and I saw many movies there when I was young including 'Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.' It's final day of operation along with the adjacent Cedar Room (once a famous local bar called Boswell's) was reported to be January 25th, but due to overwhelming community response (along with the City of Campbell and other organizations) has brought the landlord to the table to work with the theatres to keep it open for us to continue to enjoy movies, trivia, comedy and music!

Keep hoping and dreaming out there, friends! We will make it through these tough times and persevere. Here's to a productive and prosperous 2026 for all!

THE CAMPBELL MUSEUMS



The Campbell Historical Museum & Ainsley House Invite you to:

JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY

Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Docents • Gardeners • Special Events • Gardeners • Museum Collections • Museum Fundraising 	Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 hours, month 8 days 6 times (vary depending on volunteer duty) • Enjoy working with people • Interest in community building • Have a good attitude
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campbellmuseums.com/volunteer
 email: campbellmuseumvolunteers@gmail.com



The
Ainsley House



JOIN US

Calling All Garden Lovers!

Help keep the Ainsley House gardens blooming and beautiful for visitors and special events. Join us as a volunteer gardener and make history grow!

Tuesdays @10am- the Ainsley House

For more information: campbellmuseumvolunteers@gmail.com
(408) 866-2718

CAMPBELL RECREATION



VALENTINE FUN RUN 2024

5K
10K
KIDS' DASH

SAT. FEB. 10TH 9AM

To Volunteer or become a Sponsor for this event please visit our website.
WWW.CAMPBELLCA.GOV/VALENTINE



The Campbell Press Celebrates 5 Year Anniversary!



Campbell Chamber Director Ken Johnson



Seated: Jona Denz-Hamilton, Hall of Fame DJ contributor, Dana Jang, Radio Hall of Fame DJ/Columnist, and Barry Barrett, contributor.
Back row: Matthew C. Howe, Editor, Sharon McCray, Master Gardener Columnist, Nancy Whitney, Publisher

The Campbell Press celebrated its 5th Anniversary Party at the Pruneyard's Hilton Double-Tree Hotel.

Here are a few of the people who lend their time and support to the local newspaper.



Jona Denz-Hamilton, DJ and Chris Jackson, KFOX/Columnist, DJ Radio Hall of Fame.

Thank you to all our writers, readership, subscribers, and advertisers.



Matthew C. Howe, Editor, Nancy Whitney, Publisher, Dan Orloff, San Jose Rock N Roll Hall of Fame Owner/Music Contributor.



Joan Denz-Hamilton, Dana Jang, Karin Nakamura, DJ's Radio Hall of Fame Alumni.

PUBLISHER NOTES

By Nancy O. Whitney

A City That Celebrates Together: Campbell's Community Spirit Shines into 2026

As The Campbell Press closes out 2025 and looks ahead to 2026, one thing is clear: Campbell's sense of community remains strong, vibrant, and deeply connected. Throughout the past year, residents, businesses, service groups, and visitors came together time and again to celebrate what makes our city special and unique.

Campbell thrived in 2025 on its events, beginning in the spring with the Campbell Chamber's Citizen Dinner in March. This long-standing tradition honors the Business of the Year and Citizen of the Year and brings together community organizations, civic leaders, and neighbors for an evening filled with appreciation, reflection, and pride.

May ushered in one of the city's most anticipated weekends—the Campbell Chamber Boogie Festival. More than 40,000 people fill downtown Campbell to enjoy live music, great food, local vendors, and beautiful weather, reminding us just how lively and welcoming our small city can be.

June kept the momentum rolling with the Downtown Campbell Business Association's annual Car Show. Now in its third year, the event continues to grow, drawing impressive crowds and showcasing both classic cars and the charm of downtown Campbell.

July celebrated culture and tradition with the Italian Festival at History Park, while August brings summer to a close with the final performances of the popular Summer Concert Series at Orchard City Green. Families, friends, and neighbors gather under the evening sky to enjoy music, conversation, and community spirit.

September offered an opportunity to look ahead during the Mayor's State of the City Address, where residents learn about current projects, city progress, and what lies ahead for Campbell's future growth and development.

October was packed with excitement as the Campbell Chamber's Oktoberfest returned, welcoming an estimated 40,000 to 50,000 visitors

from across the Bay Area. From live music and a spirited beer contest to perfect fall weather, the festival is a true celebration of Campbell. That same month, the Creepy Crawly Halloween event filled downtown with more than 1,000 people enjoying a day of trick-or-treating, costumes, and family-friendly fun.

November marked the start of the Chamber's Toy Program, with more than 200 local businesses serving as toy drop-off locations to support families during the holidays. December shone bright with the Carol of Lights, featuring Santa visits facilitated by the Kiwanis Club of Campbell, bounce houses, Christmas carols, hot chocolate, hot cider, and festive activities throughout downtown. The Campbell Press proudly joins in by hosting letter-writing to Santa and sharing the joy of the season.

In January, The Campbell Press celebrated its fifth anniversary party at the Hilton Hotel in the Pruneyard. With another year of heartfelt thanks for contributing to our community newspaper. It was our honor to celebrate our hard-working volunteers. These people are the cornerstone of information and local news that make us so special and make us Campbell's community newspaper.

Looking ahead, February will bring the DCBA's Retail Soirée, setting the tone for another busy year, followed by the March Chamber Gala. Nominations for Business of the Year and Citizen of the Year are due January 20, and the gala will once again honor deserving individuals, service groups, and community leaders who give back throughout the year.

Stay connected by picking up your monthly copy of The Campbell Press, your trusted source for local news, events, and stories that matter. As always, we thank our loyal readers, advertisers, subscribers, and community members for your continued support. Here's to another wonderful year in Campbell and many more moments to celebrate together.

Fruits + Nuts

by Thomas J. Espinosa



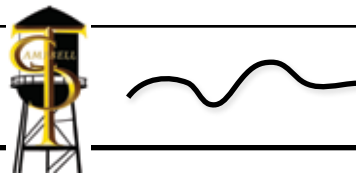
JANUARY

CAMPBELL REAL ESTATE

JANUARY

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					
Chapman Drive	\$4,070,000	5/5.5	0	8531	3370
Steinway Avenue	\$2,720,000	4/2.5	78	11005	1915
Corliss Way	\$2,248,000	5/3	66	8800	2025
Fewtrell Drive	\$2,138,500	2/2	78	8040	2012
Marilyn Drive	\$2,101,000	3/2	63	6700	1166
Highland Park Lane	\$1,978,888	3/2	64	6200	1295
Jones Way	\$1,920,000	3/2	79	6636	1342
Smith Avenue	\$1,550,000	4/2.5	64	6200	1695
S. San Tomas Aquino	\$2,450,000	1/1	85	16500	884
Wren Way	\$2,320,000	3/2	79	6000	1547
SOLD/CLOSED ESCROW, CONDO/TOWNHOMES					
Valley Forge Way	\$1,074,000	3/2.5	50	1496	1242
N. 1st Street	\$575,000	2/1	54		903
Capri Drive	\$1,425,000	3/2.5	44		1990
Capri Drive	\$1,380,000	3/2	44	1637	2196
W. Hacienda Avenue	\$1,339,888	3/2.5	45	837	1597
W. Rincon Avenue	\$1,330,000	3/2.5	44	1463	1665
Campisi Way	\$999,000	2/2	17	1441	1414



PUERTO VALLARTA AND LA PENITA TOO



Arthur Low
West San Jose – Campbell Lions

During the week of Thanksgiving, a team of Lions In Sight docs and techs flew into Puerto Vallarta to see patients. The team consisted of three optometrists, four OD students from Southern CA, and nine technicians. Joining me from the West San Jose-Campbell Lions were Lucie Mueller and Pam Berry.

The first two days of clinic was held in a town about 50 miles north of the airport in La Penita de Jaltemba. The local Lions put us up in a small hotel which was clean but the rooms lacked air conditioning, had poor flushing toilets, and only luke warm showers. But we persisted, did not complain and were well fed.

We saw about 800 patients in two days there. It still amazes me that people do without what we take for granted. We saw so many people in their 60s and above who have NEVER had glasses to use. People's eyes will need help seeing at near once they pass the mid 40s. Giving them a pair of reading glasses allows them to finally see their cell-phones without enlarging the font. (Yes, almost everyone has a cellphone). There



Dr. Art Low gives a young girl a much needed eye exam.

were also school kids who could not see the board that we were able to help.

One of the highlights of the trip was at the beach, about three blocks from the hotel.



Taking a break from eye exams, Lions Club members have some fun on the beach.

Around sunset, there was a team of volunteers who were releasing newly hatched turtles on the beach, about ten yards from the water. Each of us were given a small plastic container with a turtle in it. Releasing them a few yards from the water allows the turtles to return to the same place in fifteen years to lay eggs. It was also done at sunset so the sea bird predators could not see them.

American type breakfast and was next to the Marina Golf Course, famous for having crocodiles in the water hazards. So after the last day of clinic, some of us played a round of golf and also went deep sea fishing. Work hard, play hard!



After two days of rest and sight seeing, we returned to Puerto Vallarta, where we saw another 400 patients. But the accommodations were much better. Here in the US, Comfort Inn is not known as a high end hotel. But in PV, it had AC, hot water, a complimentary

Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation

As we gather with loved ones and reflect on the year behind us, the CVMF Board extends our heartfelt thanks for your continued support, generosity, and friendship. Your commitment helped us make meaningful progress in honoring local veterans and strengthening the Campbell community.

With your help, we awarded well-deserved scholarships and provided four much-needed PCs to veteran students at Mission and West Valley Colleges. These gifts made a real difference for students working hard to build new futures after their service. We're certainly grateful for everyone who contributed to making these opportunities possible.

Your support also carried us through two moving community traditions: the Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.

These gatherings reminded all of us how important it is to pause, remember, and honor those who served.

Another highlight was our lively Champagne Gala Brunch at the Community Center. Seeing so many familiar faces, sharing stories, and celebrating together was a joy for the entire Board.

Of course, we couldn't be prouder of replacing the seventeen-year-old legacy sign and unveiling our brand-new Memorial sign. It's a symbol of pride, respect, and renewal, reflecting everything people appreciate about CVMF (See a cool video below).

We're excited to continue enhancing the Memorial in 2026 and will share more information as those plans evolve.

None of this would have happened without you. Your involvement, whether through donations, volunteer hours, attending events, or simply offering encouragement, keeps CVMF focused on our mission.

Thanks for standing with us this year. We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with peace, good health, and hope. We look forward to seeing you again in 2026.



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

The Olive Tree



By Margaret Schieck, Co-President

Happy New Year to all, and Happy 30th Anniversary to the Campbell Area Chapter 5151 of AARP!

There will be no January general meeting at the Community Center as our Chapter will be celebrating our anniversary with a special luncheon at a Campbell restaurant. We will resume our regular schedule of meetings on February 17th. At that time, our program will feature The Travelling Troop from the Santa Clara Players presenting One Act Plays.

We are looking forward to a varied schedule of programs for 2026. Scheduled presenters include a project concerning cross generational communications with people with early dementia, an engaging speaker from the Campbell History Museum, a speaker from the Triton Museum in Santa Clara, the Director of Senior Programs at the Community Center and many other interesting topics. Once again, we will close the year with a performance by the musicians from Harpers' Hall and Culinary Society.

Our Chapter 5151 members continue to be actively involved

with volunteer service to our community. Over the past several years, we have consistently contributed over 1,000 volunteer hours per year to organizations in our area. We are living up to our motto: "To Serve, Not To Be Served."

Come join us to see what we are all about. Chapter 5151 of AARP meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, except January, in Room Q80 of the Campbell Community Center. Coffee and snacks are ready at 9:15 a.m., and the formal meeting starts at 10:00. One does not need to be a Campbell resident to join us.

HEY...

Tired of weights?
Tired of boring treadmills?
Tired of robotic, mundane, dance like self defence moves?

Try boxing!

Get fit and conditioned. Learn how to throw a left hook!
Learn to hit a speedbag.
Learn to jump rope.
Learn balance & coordination.
Learn to throw combinations.

Contenders Gym LLC

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Santa Clara, CA. 95050
408-980-9849

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

CAMPBELL RECREATION

www.campbellca.gov/recreation

WINTER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

WINTER/SPRING 2026 ACTIVITY GUIDE
campbellca.gov/activityguide

WINTER/SPRING 2026 REGISTRATION
Begins at 9AM on December 2nd for Campbell Residents and December 3rd for everyone! Visit
campbellca.gov/register

LIVE WELL CAMPBELL
Join our community-wide effort to promote healthy living, nutritious eating, and overall wellness. Live Well Campbell encourages everyone to take small steps toward a healthier lifestyle together. Visit
campbellca.gov/livewell

KIDS' NIGHTS AT THE CCC
FRIDAYS: 1/23, 2/27, 3/27, 4/24
campbellca.gov/youthclasses

VALENTINE FUN RUN
10K, 5K & KIDS' DASH - FEB 7, 2026
campbellca.gov/valentine

SWIM LESSON ASSESSMENTS
Find the right swim lesson for your child for summer 2026. For more info, visit
campbellca.gov/aquatics.

PRE-SCHOOL 2026-2027
Ages 2.5+ campbellca.gov/pre-school

SCHOOL BREAK CAMPS
FEB 17-20th & APR 13-17th
Looking for child care or activities while school is out?
Visit
campbellca.gov/camps

SUMMER PREVIEW OPEN HOUSE
MARCH 7, 2026
Explore the Kids' Zone and Teen activities by the Campbell Youth Commission! Learn about summer camps, swim lessons, and the pre-school program.

PART-TIME JOB OPPORTUNITIES
Current and Summer 2026
Opportunities, email
recinfo@campbellca.gov

CCC PASSES: WEIGHT ROOM & LAP
SWIM AGES 15+
campbellca.gov/fitness



Krazy George Henderson Honored with 2026 Spartan Spirit Award



Who could ever forget that loud, frenetic drumbeat echoing through Spartan Stadium of the San Jose Earthquakes' early matches in the mid-1970s—the unmistakable rhythm of a wild-haired superfan in cutoff shorts, bounding through the stands with unstoppable energy? That unforgettable figure, San Jose State University alumnus **George "Krazy George" Henderson**, has now been named the **2026 Spartan Spirit Award** recipient by the San Jose State Alumni Association. The honor was presented on March 12, celebrating a legacy that spans more than five decades of pure, unfiltered sporting event spirit.

A Spartan Who Never Stopped Cheering

Henderson's cheerleading journey began in 1968 while he was a student at San Jose State and a member of the university's national champion judo team. His antics in the stands quickly became legendary—section by section cheers, a hand drum that could drown out a PA system, and a gravelly voice that could rally thousands. Fans loved him because he cheered exactly the way they wanted to cheer.

After graduating, Henderson continued showing up at local sporting events, leading cheers for free simply because he loved it. That passion soon caught the attention of Bay Area teams, and by 1975 he was hired by the San Jose Earthquakes and the California Golden Seals. Later that year, Kansas City Chiefs owner Lamar Hunt brought him in for a single game—then hired him full-time. With that, **the world's first professional cheerleader** was born.

The Man Who Made the World Stand Up

Henderson's résumé reads like a tour through American sports history: the Houston Oilers, Minnesota Vikings, Oakland A's, Colorado Avalanche, San Jose Giants, U.S. national soccer teams, and dozens more. But his most iconic contribution came on **October 15, 1981**, during the Oakland A's ALCS matchup against the New York Yankees. After several attempts, Henderson successfully launched what would become the most famous fan participation cheer on Earth: **The Wave**.

He had first stumbled upon the idea a year earlier at a hockey game in Edmonton, when a delayed reaction from one section of fans created a ripple effect. But it was in Oakland with the A's—on national television—that the Wave truly debuted to the world. It circled the stadium again and again, and soon it was everywhere.

A Legacy Still Going Strong

Now 80, Henderson remains a fixture at Bay Area sporting events, especially San Jose State games and San Jose Earthquakes matches at PayPal Park. He still drums. He still shouts. He still gets "in the zone," as he puts it. And he still insists he'll keep cheering until at least age 99.

The Spartan Spirit Award recognizes alumni who embody the pride, energy, and dedication that define San Jose State. Henderson is all of that—and more. He didn't just cheer for the Spartans; he helped shape the culture of fan participation across the country.

As the Alumni Association noted, Henderson's impact is measured not only in decades but in millions: more than **25 million fans** have cheered with him in person, and hundreds of millions have seen him on television.

A Cheerleader Like No Other

Henderson's career has taken him from Buscher High School in Santa Clara shop teacher to national celebrity. He has appeared on *Hollywood Squares*, *To Tell the Truth*, and even *America's Got Talent*. He's been featured in *People* magazine and countless local and national broadcasts. Yet through it all, he has remained the same drum pounding, fan loving Spartan who started it all in the late '60s.

This year, the Campbell community joins San Jose State University in celebrating a hometown original—a man who turned school spirit into a lifelong profession and gave the world a reason to stand up and cheer.

Keeping a Heritage of Education at One West Campbell Avenue

On the main street of Campbell Ave, an imposing structure stands proudly. Once upon a time it welcomed students of Campbell High School to run on its lawns, learn in its classrooms, laugh in the hallways, and carve their names into the windowsills - quite a few residents of Campbell have fond memories or stories that came from their time in the building. When the Campbell High School closed and became the Campbell Community Center in the mid 1980's, the future of an aging, 1930's sole example of Spanish Colonial Revival built by New Dealers was uncertain.

A nod to the Ship of Theseus philosophical puzzle: what constitutes a school? It's not the students - they come and go and change as they grow. It's not the teachers, new ones get hired and treasured ones retire. It's not the curriculum, any good curriculum evolves and changes with new information and reflective of educational needs. It's not the building either, schools can move, open, and close while retaining their identity.

Today, the building lives as a vibrant school, though for a younger crowd - the sign out front reads "DaVinci Academy of Silicon Valley", a TK-8 academy that has been around since 1986, opening their own doors in Palo Alto around the same time that the Campbell High School doors were closing. The academy opened as a subsidiary of the Delphi Schools - a private education system with a philosophy of creating independent students who

master each progressive step in their education before proceeding to the next step.

When the academy's lease ended at their previous building, they sought around for a fitting home that could accommodate their specific program needs. It needed space for a library, as the students read hundreds of books each, annually. It had to have a science lab so that practical chemistry, physics, and biology experiments by the students could be done. It had to have bathrooms on each floor, lunch rooms, elevator access, the works. It was hard to find a

fitting space, something that allowed for a wide breadth of educational programs.

Campbell Community Center, Building A, had all of this - and itched to become a schoolhouse again. The classrooms were newly re-modeled and refurbished with central heating, new wiring and grounded outlets installed, and various other changes that gave the historic building's interior a face-lift - but it still kept all the charm of its age. The slight cracks in the stucco, wood-clad windows, the ornate tiling around the black water fountains in the

Continued on page 9





DaVinci Academy of Silicon Valley

K-8 Open House

January 24th

1pm-3pm





1 West Campbell Avenue
Building A, Campbell, CA
408.370.7400
www.davincisv.org



neighborhood HANDS

Connect With Your Neighbor, Change Lives

Our mission is to create opportunities for people experiencing homelessness or economic insecurity to connect with their community and find support. Through activities that improve shared spaces, we bring neighbors together—housed and unhoused—to build relationships, strengthen our neighborhoods, and foster a more inclusive community where everyone can thrive.



I was lost before I joined Neighborhood Hands. Now, I've found my community, I've found my people. I've found hope.

-Adam, Participant

What We Do

We provide a no-barrier opportunity for unhoused and housed neighbors to come together to beautify underfunded city parks.

Join us!

Every other Saturday - 7:45 AM at Guadalupe Gardens Park, San Jose, CA



WE BUILD COMMUNITY




JOIN US FOR OUR 4TH ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

Cloud City Supply & Stanford Blood Center are hosting a Give Blood 🩸 Get Love ❤️ Blood Drive

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH 2026

10:00 AM - 04:00 PM

Campbell Community Center
Roosevelt Room
1 West Campbell Ave.
Campbell, CA 95008



- Show us your donation confirmation and get **triple loyalty points** on one purchase at Cloud City Supply.
- All donors receive a donor gift bag with cool swag from local businesses.

Scan to sign up and donate:







Campbell Chamber of Commerce

Campbell Toy Program 2025: A Heartfelt Wrap-Up

The Campbell Toy Program once again showcased the incredible generosity and spirit of our community this holiday season. In November, the Camp-

collecting thousands of toys for children in need. When we shared on social media that gifts for ages 9-14 were in short supply,



The Chamber Staff: Teresa Stanko, Pamela Norman, Kristen Frank, and volunteers.

the community rallied. Individuals and local businesses stepped up in a big way to ensure older kids weren't left out.

Three Fill-A-Truck events at CSI, St. Lucys, and Marshall Lane schools were a resounding success, with students donating books, sporting goods, and toys. Community celebra-

bell Union School District distributed applications to eligible families, and the response was overwhelming—more than 900 applications were returned, representing nearly 2,000 children between the ages of 0 and 14.

This year saw record participation from local businesses and organizations. Over 40 retail locations requested donation bins—



Volunteer Amy from Cloud City is happily putting the gift bags in the cars with Santa's cheer!

the highest number in recent years. Santa Clara County Fire has always been a vital community partner, with eight stations

tions like the Pruneyard's Tree Lighting, DCBA's Carol of Lights, and Making Spirits Bright held at Darling Fischer all played a vital role, bringing people together to give back while ringing in the holiday cheer.

One of the season's highlights was the beloved "Santa Claus is Coming to Town"

tradition. On December 13 and 14, Santa toured Campbell neighborhoods on his makeshift sleigh decorated and driven by Campbell Kiwanis. Campbell PD and SCCFD showed up to ensure Santa was escorted in style, helping spreading holiday joy. What began in 2020 has now become a cherished event, with residents lining the streets to wave hello and contribute toys.

Behind the scenes, an army of volunteers made it all possible. Over 350 dedicated individuals spent two weeks sorting, bagging, and distributing toys,



Home Church is the toy distribution pick up location for parents.

with additional help in January to prepare remaining items for next year. The Home Church generously provided space and support, serving as the hub for these efforts. Volunteers carefully packed gifts for each family based only on age and gender, ensuring privacy while creating magical



Cars form a line as they go through the organized system to receive their Santa's Presents gift bags.

holiday moments. Every family received a game and a ball, each child received a book and stocking stuffers, and little ones under five were gifted a cuddly stuffed animal.

The Campbell Toy Program is more than a seasonal initiative—it's a testament to what we can achieve when a community comes together. Thank you to every donor, volunteer, and partner who helped make this year unforgettable. Your kindness and commitment brought joy to thousands of children and reminded us all of the true meaning of the holidays.

Money Empowerment by Jill



As resolution season rolls around, many people focus on fitness goals or new habits. But for financial experts and planners, the start of a new year offers a different kind of opportunity. It's a fresh look at money. Reviewing finances, setting intentions, and creating a financial plan can set the tone for the year ahead. Some call the financial plan a budget.

For those new to budgeting, or even for seasoned planners looking for a reset, the process doesn't have to feel restrictive or overwhelming. In fact, it can be quite empowering.

Start With a Financial Checkup

Before planning ahead, it's important to look back. A thorough review of your finances helps answer a simple but powerful question: *Am I where I want to be?*

If the answer is yes, take note of the habits and decisions that helped you get there. Those are worth repeating. If the answer is no, there's no need for guilt or frustration. Instead, identify areas that could be adjusted in the coming year. Awareness, after all, is the first step toward change.

Intentions Before Goals

Rather than jumping straight into numbers, many financial planners recommend starting with intentions. Unlike goals, which are specific and measurable, intentions focus on how you want to act or feel.

Examples of financial intentions might include:

- Making financial choices that support long-term goals
- Working toward a secure financial future

- Building emergency savings to a level that feels safe and stable

Once intentions are clear, goals can be created to support them. These goals provide structure and direction, such as committing to monthly budget check-ins, contributing a set percentage to retirement, or building an emergency fund to a specific dollar amount.

Build a Plan That Reflects Your Priorities

With intentions and goals in place, it's time to create a financial plan. Start by listing mandatory expenses such as housing, utilities, insurance, and other non-negotiables. Then, add expenses that move you closer to your goals, such as retirement contributions or emergency savings.

What remains can be allocated to discretionary categories. This is where budgeting becomes personal. A budget isn't just about limits. It's a tool to ensure that your spending aligns with what matters most to you.

Keeping the budget visible, whether on paper, an app, or a spreadsheet can make daily decisions easier. When faced with a tempting purchase, you can ask yourself if the choice supports your goals, or can it wait?

A Fresh Start for 2026

Budgeting doesn't have to be rigid or joyless. Approached with intention, it can be creative, motivating, and even fun. As the new year approaches, taking time to reflect, plan, and prioritize can turn resolutions into lasting financial habits.

Good luck and here's to a confident, intentional financial year ahead.

GET READY FOR THE 28TH ANNUAL COUNTRY WOMAN'S CLUB OF CAMPBELL (CWCC) CRAB + PASTA FUNDRAISER!

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE

Mark your calendars to join us for an evening of delicious food and community spirit. Your support directly funds the CWCC Scholarship Program, helping deserving high school seniors from the Campbell Union High School District (CUHSD) pursue their college dreams!

When: Saturday, February 7, 2026
Doors Open: 6:00 PM
Where: Campbell Community Center, Orchard City Banquet Hall (1 W Campbell Ave, Campbell)
Price: \$85 per person
Kitchen: Proudly run by the Kiwanis Club!

Dinner includes Cold Crab, Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert, Wine, Beer & Soda

Support Our Cause: Scholarships & Donations

Every year, the funds raised from this dinner make a huge difference in the lives of talented CUHSD students, including those focused on vocational skills, liberal/fine arts, and science/math. We prioritize helping students who show significant turnaround, have financial need, or maintain a strong B+ GPA

Our Ask:
 We are currently seeking donations for our Silent Auction & Raffle Baskets! If you or your business would like to contribute an item or service to help us raise even more funds for scholarships, please let us know!
 Cherri Fontana - Co-Chair of C&P 2026 - 408-209-1310
www.cwcc1905.com

Contact Maggie to purchase tickets
 We except cash, check & Venmo
 Email mchurch565@gmail.com or 408-718-8864
 Cherri - Venmo last 4 digit of my phone # 1310

Cherri Fontana **SORRY, NO CREDIT CARDS WE DO HAVE ZELLE ASK MAGGIE OR CHERRI**

venmo

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Saturday
MARCH 16TH

TCP



CITY NEWS *By Sergio Lopez*

In 2026, the City of Campbell will have a big year, delivering on a number of community priorities. Many of these were put in progress this past year or even earlier, but will see culmination this coming year. In roughly chronological order, here are many of the milestones you can expect to see in the first half of the year:

Priorities and Budget

Each year, Campbell embarks upon its priority setting process, which ultimately feeds into the budgeting process. Working backwards, the City operates on the fiscal year, which ends in June and begins in July. This means that for much of the early part of the calendar year, staff are working to present a balanced budget.

The process begins with a special Council meeting (usually held at the Campbell Community Center) where Council members have the opportunity to share their ideas for the city's top priorities. This meeting is still being finalized, and you can watch this space or visit campbellca.gov for details on participating to make your voice heard.

Renovations to City Hall

Last year, the City went out to bid for contractors to renovate the City Council Chambers in order to make them more accessible. This work will begin in the early part of the year. Most likely, this will involve closing the chambers to the public for some time, and may require meetings to be scheduled at an alternate location — stay tuned for more information.

Library Opening

Many residents are eagerly awaiting the opening of the new library. Importantly, the Campbell Library is effectively a partnership between the City of Campbell and the Santa

Clara County Library District, which actually manages and operates the building. As many residents and readers know, construction on the library, a renovation which was a capital project operated by the City of Campbell, completed in late 2025. The next step is furnishing and maintaining the inside of the building, which will now largely transfer to the Santa Clara County Library District. Under the building's lease agreement, the District will continue to maintain the inside of the building, with a public opening to be announced sometime in early 2026.

Skate Park renovations

Last year, the Campbell City Council approved renovations to the skate park at the Campbell Community Center. The skate park will close accordingly on February 2nd to allow work to begin, which should be completed by sometime in March.

Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Currently, Campbell is the only city in Santa Clara County which lacks a Climate Action Plan — a dubious distinction, given how much many members of our community prioritize sustainability and environmentalism. In a significant milestone for Campbell, this will at last change in 2026.

As the City finalizes its plan, interested residents are now able to view a draft and to offer comment to help shape what is ultimately adopted by the City Council. You can visit campbellca.gov/ClimateAction in order to view and download the draft plan, and comments on the plan can be emailed to Environmental Program Specialist Tiffany Hudson at tiffanyh@campbellca.gov.

Continued on page 9

DISTRICT NEWS



By Susan Ellenberg

Join Us for the 2026 State of the District

As we begin a new year, Supervisor Ellenberg invites residents to come together for the 2026 State of the District—an annual opportunity to look ahead, connect across communities, and reflect on how we can continue uplifting one another throughout District 4.

This year's event will bring together residents, community organizations, and elected leaders to share updates on the work happening across our neighborhoods and to spark meaningful conversations about the future of our district. While the event is being held in Willow Glen, Campbell will be well represented, including participation from the Campbell Business

Association and guest speaker Anne Souza representing the City of Campbell. We warmly encourage Campbell residents to attend, connect with neighbors from across the district, and help strengthen the collaborative spirit that makes District 4 so special.

At a time when communities are navigating the impacts of federal funding cuts, events like the State of the District offer an important space for residents to learn more, get involved, and work alongside local leaders to better support one another. We would be honored to have Campbell residents join us and be part of the conversations shaping the year ahead.

EVENT DETAILS:

- 17** Wednesday, February 18
- 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Willow Glen High School
- Refreshments and food will be provided

RSVPs are encouraged and can be made through z:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supervisor-ellenbergs-state-of-the-district-2026-tickets-1976629367648>

We hope you'll join us for an evening of connection, conversation, and community-building at this year's State of the District.

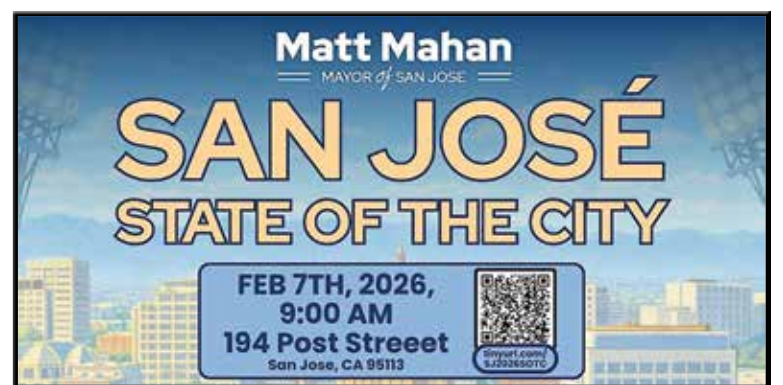
Matt Mahan
MAYOR of SAN JOSE

Every day, I'm reminded of why I'm proud to call San José home — and most of that pride comes from living here alongside all of you. Your commitment to this city makes all the difference. And on February 7th, I hope you'll join me at **194 Post Street** for an event that's all about celebrating that shared pride — and putting it into action. We'll start there with service, before heading to San Pedro Square.

Our annual State of the City isn't about long speeches and formal customs. It's a hands-on celebration of who we are and what we're building together.

Here's what you can expect:

- Service projects that show our pride in action — painting an iconic Downtown building that needs some love, making



empty lots look loved, and working with your loved ones to abate graffiti

- A brief address highlighting our progress and sharing a vision for addressing the problems that still persist
- A festive block party with everything from flying car simulations and holograms to a puppy bowl and small business booths

This event is about more than civic engagement. It's about

civic pride — showing up, pitching in, and taking ownership of the place we all call home. And I'm proud to do that work alongside you.

It's also about seeing what our city looks like at its very best — activated, excited and energetic. We'll be in the midst of all the action we've been planning for years to welcome the world for Super Bowl LX. But don't worry — we've reserved a parking spot for you!

City Council & Planning Commission News



By Adam Buchbinder

Welcome to 2026! As of this writing, changes are afoot at the Planning Commission. Commissioner Davis Fields, after a year as second chair on the Site and Architectural Review Committee and a year as first chair on SARC and Vice Chair of the Planning Commission, will be chairing the Planning Commission for 2026. We're also losing Commissioner Majewski, who will be resigning as soon as the city finishes interviewing potential replacements.

The Chair is responsible for organizing meetings, for keeping order and working out balance between the desire of the public to be heard and the need to comply with state law as well as the need to fairly apply the city's rules. But in addition, the Chair can appoint subcommittees to investigate issues and bring recommendations to the Commission, which can in turn be sent to City Council to become policy.

This is a very real power. Commissioner Fields was

instrumental in reviewing the city's Conditional Use Permits, determining that a great deal of staff time and cost was being spent on permits which had never been so much as controversial in the past ten years; this led to the city making many permits, like those for fitness studios, simpler and cheaper.

In the upcoming year, we're going to possibly be taking another pass at streamlining more permits, and we may also consider reforming some of the city's fees

and requirements on new housing. Either way, we will certainly be reviewing the city's updated municipal code, which staff has been working hard to rewrite. And, of course, we'll have plenty of housing projects to review, though we will be required by law to approve most of them, which means that the purpose of these meetings will be to give the community a chance to be heard.

We will also be reviewing the city's Multimodal Plan as it comes together,

as well as other city-wide planning projects, and the annual Capital Improvement Plans. There's a lot of exciting stuff coming up!

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.



San José Reminds The World Where The Grateful Dead First Began Rocking – With A Plaque Dedication And Celebration At City Hall

San Jose, Calif. —
December 4, 2025

It was a scene that brought together a unique mix of San José constituencies.



San Jose Rocks founder, Dan Orloff with Trixie Garcia (Jerry Garcia's daughter), unveiling the Grateful Dead historic plaque commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Grateful Dead's first performance as the Grateful Dead. photo credit: Dave Lepori

Tie-dyed shirts mingled with city officials, college students, septuagenarian, music lovers, and the daughter of a rock legend.

On December 4, San José paid tribute to **Grateful Dead's 60th anniversary**, marking six decades since the band performed for the first time under its now-iconic name—at a house just half a block from the San José State University campus.

The home's footprint is now occupied by the campus of **San José City Hall**, where a plaque was dedicated to mark the location of the Dead's seminal launch. The event was sponsored and privately funded by San Jose Rocks, a non-profit organization devoted to honoring local music history and encouraging young musicians to make their own history.

The festivities were hosted by **KCBS Radio's Kim Vestal** and **Mayor Matt Mahan**, who cited the significance of what happened on December 4, 1965.

"The Grateful Dead didn't just start here," Mahan said. "They launched a cultural movement that spread from San José across the world. This plaque is a tribute to where that energy began."

Speakers included author and historian **Mark Purdy** and **San Jose Rocks founder Dan Orloff**. Their years of research uncovered the exact address—**38 South Fifth Street**—where Jerry Garcia, Bob Weir, Phil Lesh, Ron "Pig-pen" McKnann, and Bill Kreutzmann played their first notes as the Grateful Dead as part of counter cultural figure **Ken Kesey's** first public Acid Test party to experiment with the effects of LSD, which was then a legal drug. **Ira Meltzer**, SJSU class of '67, shared a warm, firsthand in-person account of that long-ago evening. **Trixie Garcia**, daughter

of the late Grateful Dead guitarist Jerry Garcia, offered heartfelt reflections on her father's legacy and the enduring spirit of the band.

Orloff and Garcia then unveiled the commemorative **bronze plaque**, which is mounted on the **south wall of the Council Chambers building**. The subsequent celebration spilled into the **City Hall Plaza** and featured colorful psychedelic light projections on the rotunda and an exhibit of rare memorabilia, including the only known poster from that legendary night. Live music by **SJSU students** from the **Spartan Jam Band** concluded the proceedings with a perfectly "groovy" set.

Supporters of San Jose Rocks who helped finance



San Jose Rocks lights up San Jose City Hall in celebration of the location, where the Grateful Dead first played as Grateful Dead and the world's first publicate promoted Ken Kesey acid test. photo credit: Dave Lepori

the celebration earned a special commemorative print produced by famed artist **Stanley Mouse**, who created the classic Grateful Dead skull-and-roses imagery and designed many of their concert posters. The limited edition prints are still available to donors at sanjoserocks.org.

"For us, this plaque isn't just about the Grateful Dead," said Orloff. "It's about celebrating the deep musical roots of this city—and passing those stories on to the next generation."

JANUARY MOVIES

By Sam Wilson



Avatar: Fire and Ash – B

Gorgeous visual spectacle with familiar story beats. The grieving Sully clan are attacked and separated by the aggressive Ash People while still at war with the invading humans. Director and special effects master James Cameron (Titanic, Aliens) doubles down on what worked the first two films instead of introducing new ideas. Sam Worthington (Terminator: Salvation), Zoe Saldana (Star Trek), Sigourney Weaver (Alien), Stephen Lang (Don't Breathe), and Kate Winslet (Contagion) lead the returning cast.

Anaconda – C+

Self-aware meta comedy playing it too safe, failing to capitalize on the absurd campy premise by refusing to push boundaries. Friends end up in danger after deciding to remake their favorite movie, Anaconda. Director Tom Gormican (The Unbearable Weight of Massive Talent) recruits a likable group with Paul Rudd (Knocked Up), Jack Black (Tropic Thunder), Thandie Newton (Crash), and Steve Zahn (Sahara). The formulaically stale creature feature lacks a witty script and doesn't get the best out of its talented cast.

Marty Supreme – B+

Exhilarating drama with an anxiety-inducing pace, layered themes, and a top-tier production. Set in 1952 New York City, Timothee Chalamet (Wonka) is a Jewish fast-talking hustler trying to get into the table tennis world tournament and convince everyone he's the world's best ping pong player. Gwyneth Paltrow (Iron Man) and renowned musical artist Tyler the Creator appear for director Josh Safdie (Uncut Gems, Good Time), who brings his frenetic trademark style for arguably his best work yet.

Five Nights at Freddy's 2 – C-

Messy straight-to-DVD-quality sequel stuffed with Easter eggs that mean nothing unless your a fan of the hit games. Mike (Josh Hutcherson, "The Hunger Games") must rescue his sister who, unaware of the truth, runs away to reconnect with her animatronic "friends". A horrible script, convoluted plot, and weak thrills make this slightly worse than the first. McKenna Grace (Ghostbusters: Afterlife) and Wayne

Knight (Space Jam) join the franchise.

The Housemaid – C+

Silly popcorn throwback to campy intimate psychological thrillers. A struggling maid (Sydney Sweeney, "Eden") begins working for a wealthy family with dark secrets. Veteran Paul Feig (Bridesmaids, The Heat) directs a decent cast including Brandon Sklenar (Drop) and a riveting Amanda Seyfried (Mean Girls). Twisty enough to go beyond the basic premise despite not being high art.

Song Sung Blue – B

Breezy musical biography with compelling performances all-around. Based on the true story of married couple Lightning (Hugh Jackman, "Logan") and Thunder (Kate Hudson, "Glass Onion"), who find success forming a Neil Diamond tribute band in the '90s. Heavily inspired by the 2008 documentary of the same name, director Craig Brewer (Hustle & Flow, Black Snake Moan) creates an earnest, crowd-pleasing drama about love and following your passion.

Is This Thing On? – B

Actor-director Bradley Cooper (A Star is Born, Maestro) creates a mature and authentic low-key adult comedy-drama about midlife crisis and self discovery. Alex (Will Arnett, "Blades of Glory") rediscovers himself after turning to stand-up comedy as therapy as his marriage to Tess (Laura Dern, "Jurassic Park") unravels. Light character study with some divorce movie tropes, a career-best performance from Arnett, and a supporting role from former NFL quarterback Peyton Manning.

Jay Kelly – B

Poignant character drama with nuanced performances and thoughtful introspection. Famous movie star Jay Kelly (George Clooney, "Ocean's 11") ponders missed opportunities, regret and his life accomplishments while heading to Europe to accept an award. Adam Sandler (Happy Gilmore) and Clooney have fantastic chemistry while Laura Dern and Billy Crudup (Watchmen) deliver memorable performances in minor roles. Acclaimed indie writer-director Noah Baumbach's (Marriage Story, Greenberg) latest is meditative, heartfelt, and amusing.

Acoustic Showcase
The Marks Bandana
Billy Moore
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
6:00-9:00pm
Little Lou's BBQ
2455 S. Winchester Blvd
Campbell, CA 95008

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CITY NEWS

Continued from page 7

Beekeeping Ordinance

Many residents, including members of the Santa Clara Valley Beekeepers Guild, have advocated for years to update and modernize Campbell's beekeeping laws, which in recent years has gained the support of a majority of Council during the priority setting session for a staff workplan item. Now, the work is close to being ready for public presentation. A public outreach meeting is planned for January 19th, and the topic is scheduled to be agendized for discussion by the City Council in March.

This column is written by Sergio Lopez in an individual capacity and not on behalf of the City Council, city staff, or the City of Campbell.

DAVINCI ACADEMY

Continued from page 5

hallways reflect the nobility of its age; the remnants and sigils of a student body that is now of retirement age carved into the banisters, doors, and windowframes that exist as a *veni, vidi, vici*. Students today, (equally forbidden to vandalize) can trace long-forgotten missives "DW", "JL+Nobody", and "I LOVE DOROTHY - ANDY" and wonder whether Dorothy and Andy stayed together.

Today, DaVinci Academy forges its own identity as part of the Campbell community. Local residents often see their blue-uniformed students going on field trips to local parks, museums, and visiting local Campbell businesses to learn about urban life and work. They volunteer with the Community Center, raking mulch chips over bare areas and planting, with the Campbell Toy Drive, and doing vocal performances for the Campbell community. They participate in parades, Oktoberfest Fun Runs, and are as much a part of Campbell today as the building is.

Alumni of Campbell High School sometimes come knocking on the doors out of curiosity and remembrance, and while child safety requires the doors to stay locked, interested residents, particularly those with grandkids in the K-8 range, should check out an Open House event. They can share stories of their time in the classrooms and see what still stays the same. Perhaps Andy and Dorothy will make an appearance - and perhaps their grandchildren will be able to grow and learn in the same hallways that they once did.



Wednesday, January 21
6:00pm
Hootenanny

Thursday, January 22
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, January 23
7:30pm
Chain of Fools

Saturday, January 24
7:30pm
Hootenanny

Wednesday, January 28
6:00pm
Acoustic Showcase

Thursday, January 29
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, January 30
7:30pm
Jukebox Boyz

Saturday, January 31
7:30pm
Iconics

Wednesday, February 4
6:00pm
Eurotrash

Thursday, February 5
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, February 6
7:30pm
Sound Decision

Saturday, February 7
7:30pm
Lencat

Wednesday, February 11
7:00pm
First Call

Thursday, February 12
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, February 13
7:30pm
Jokers

Saturday, February 14
7:30pm
Cadillac Jack

Wednesday, February 18
6:00pm
Ryan & Ryan

Thursday, February 19
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, February 20
7:30pm
Jinx Jones

Saturday, February 21
7:30pm
Sound Advise

Wednesday, February 25
7:30pm
Hootenanny

Thursday, February 26
6:00pm
Pro Blues Jam

Friday, February 27
7:30pm
Sub-Atomic Blues Band



Drumming Lessons
In person instruction by experienced professional. Drum set styles: rock, funk, blues, jazz, worship, country. Symphonic, concert and marching band. 408-218-0515
Kevin Coggins Drums



Wednesday, January 28, Little Lou's BBQ Campbell Acoustic Showcase 6 PM to 7 PM The Marks

Saturday, February 7, MeriWest credit union grand opening Gilroy 12 PM to 2 PM The Marks

Wednesday, February 18, Westmont Senior Living, Morgan Hill 3 PM to 4 PM private event with The Marks

Saturday, February 21, Fortino Winery, Gilroy 1 PM to 4 PM The Marks

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Spread the love at Campbell's 49th annual Valentine 5K Fun Run/Walk!

Saturday, February 7 at 9:00 am

Registration is now open.
Join us with your sweetheart, family, and friends for a hearty run/walk to celebrate the season of love!

Volunteer for the Fun Run/Walk! And sign up.

Special Registration Discounts
Ages 25 and under will receive \$25 off their registration at checkout.
Group Discounts available! Contact laurenc@campbellca.gov for more information before it's too late!
Register by January 26th to secure your 10K/5K race day shirt and medal.

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KKUP 91.5 FM Celebrates Folk, Country & Bluegrass With a Marathon of Music and Memories

By Dana Jang

San Jose's own listener-supported treasure, **KKUP 91.5 FM**, is tuning up for one of its most beloved traditions: the **Folk, Country & Bluegrass Marathon**, started on **Friday, October 20 at 10 a.m., going through Sunday, February 22 at midnight**. For an entire weekend, the airwaves will overflow with the acoustic warmth, storytelling spirit, and grassroots energy that define America's musical soul. The marathon doubles as a fundraiser, helping keep KKUP independent, commercial-free, and deeply rooted in the community it serves.

For many of us in the South Bay, folk music isn't just a genre—it's a thread woven through our lives. I grew up in the 1960s, when the harmonies of **Simon & Garfunkel**, the earnest voices of **Peter, Paul, and Mary**, and the poetic depth of **Leonard Cohen** drifted from every dorm room, coffeehouse, and transistor radio. Artists like **Pete Seeger**, **Joan Baez**, and **Judy Collins** didn't just sing; they shaped the cultural conscience of a generation.

Those sounds inspired me to pick up a guitar and take lessons at **Swain House of Music in Palo Alto**, a place where countless young musicians found their footing. My high school even held lunchtime hootenannies in the amphitheater—informal, joyful gatherings where anyone with a guitar and a song could step up and play. Those moments taught me that folk music wasn't about perfection; it was about connection.

Years later, I found myself behind a microphone as an on-air host at **KSJO in San Jose**, spinning records from artists who carried the folk tradition into new territory. I played **Cat Stevens**, **James Taylor**, **Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young**, **Joni Mitchell**, **Carole King**, **The Byrds**, **Buffalo Springfield**, **Gordon Lightfoot**, and **Arlo Guthrie**—musicians who blended introspection, activism, and irresistible melody. Their music shaped the Bay Area's soundscape, and San Jose listeners embraced it wholeheartedly.

Before the Song: "Workin' for a Livin'" by Huey Lewis and the News

By Chris Jackson
"Mayor of Silicon Valley"

The holidays are over and now it's back to work... but at least there's a fun song about it: "Workin' for a Livin'" by Huey Lewis and the News, part of our awesome Bay Area band history! Huey has truly worked for a living at jobs many of us can relate to: bus boy, bartender, and truck driver. He wrote "Workin' for a Livin'" during his time working as a truck driver.

Huey is originally from once spelled his name, "Hughie Louis." He also went by "Huey Harp," and "Bluesy Huey Lewis." By the time he settled on

"Huey Lewis," He'd been working as hard as anyone in the business, and it paid off.

You might remember Huey Lewis and the News from their shows at Mountain Winery in Saratoga. The funny thing is, if you left the show early to beat traffic down the hill because you needed to get up early for work, you actually missed the song, "Workin' for a Livin'"—it was his last song of the night! ☺

Chris Jackson can be heard on 98.5 KFOX The South Bay's Classic Rock, weekdays 9am-2pm

2026
Silicon Valley
Lunar New Year Together & Street Fair
Kicking off the Super Bowl week celebration in Silicon Valley

- 2026 First Lunar New Year celebration in the Bay Area and kicks off Super Bowl celebration week
- Largest Multicultural Lunar New Year Festival & Street Fair in Silicon Valley
- Expecting 30,000+ attendees, a major platform for diversity, culture, and community pride.

Jan 31 - Feb 1 2026
900 Lafayette St, Santa Clara, CA 95050

Logos: DINGDING TV, City of Santa Clara, O.M.G., Silicon Valley Community Media, Welcome to San Jose.

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- Lion dances. Global street food. Live performances. Family fun.
- A celebration of culture, diversity, and community pride—right in the heart of Santa Clara's future downtown.
- Kicking off Super Bowl Week with energy, color, and 30,000+ people coming together as one.

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By Sharon McCray, UCCE Master Gardener

PLANTING TREES



Recently I was reminded by a dear friend and exceptional gardener just how important it is to plant trees properly. When her citrus tree failed to flourish, she questioned the problem. Water, fertilizer, weather, whatever could it be that was causing its failure to produce fruit?

After a few seasons, she gave up and dug the tree up with intentions of planting something new to replace it. Once the tree was out of the ground the issue was brought to light. The roots were girdled.

For those unfamiliar with the term, girdling means that the roots have somehow wrapped around themselves, restricting growth and the plants ability to thrive. I thought about how many of

us bring home a new plant, whether perennial, annual or something more substantial and in our excitement to get it into the ground, neglect a simple but necessary root inspection.

Annuals are not usually an issue due to their short term life, but perennials and trees are another matter. If you are looking for bare root plants such as roses, berries or fruit trees, it is important that the roots be inspected thoroughly before planting.

Frayed or broken roots should be removed leaving healthy roots to support growth and vigor. Bare root plants should be soaked in water for at least 4 hours prior to planting. These specimens have been shipped in sawdust or another dry

material and will appreciate a nice soaking.

It is recommended that the planting hole be kept only large enough to accommodate the root ball. The reasoning is simple - the plant needs to acclimate to the native soil as soon as is reasonably possible. If a large hole is dug and filled with a loose planting mixture, that hole might then become in essence, a pot. The roots will most likely prefer to stay in that soil rather than move into the native soil that may not be as hospitable.

Find the best spot for your plant according to the plant tag. If the plant tag says it will reach 25 feet in height, take it at its word and avoid planting it under obstacles such as overhead wires.

Once the hole is dug, fill it with water and allow it to drain naturally which could take some time in heavy clay soils. In the middle of the hole, create a pyramid or mound of soil that the plant can be placed on, gently spreading the roots down the sides of the mound. Then fill the hole with native soil and water again.

Most trees do not need to be staked. Read that again. A valley orchardist that mentored me said when she was a young girl and her parents planted new trees, her morning routine included walking the rows and shaking each tree trunk to stimulate root growth and help the tree adjust to its new environment. In retrospect, I don't

think I have ever seen a new orchard with trees staked to strengthen the young tree.

As for potted trees, the same planting technique should be employed. Nursery trees are grown very close to each other and their trunks can be fragile. Roots can fill the pot as it has grown. Again, remove the straggly roots, inspect for damage and crossed stems, separate and plant over a mound, using the same soil that you just removed from the pot along with native soil.

It may seem tedious but believe me, after a few years, you will realize that the plants are doing well and their strong root structure can help them withstand severe weather and other hazards.

WEST COAST CHEF

THE GARRET: MAKING CAMPBELL HAPPY SINCE 1970...



By Bill Peil

The Garret is a bit of an enigma. It was built as a two story restaurant, pizzeria, and entertainment venue by Bernie and Doris Tougas during the gateway of the 70's. You could always get a world class burger, many mouth-watering sandwiches, the best pizza in Campbell (or any other area) and a great selection of draft craft beers, and local wines. I remember going into the cellar to see local legends Joe Sharino, Pokerface, The Toons, Succotash, Gary Dunn and Chanter, Shagbark Hickory, Colby and Kenny, the Garcia Bros, and Slim Pickens to name a few. You could see Kevin Pollak working on his comedy, and much more. It was the place to be and be seen. Many graduations, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and sporting team events have been held there.

It feels a bit like a comfortable living room with lots of wood, brick, tv's, bobbleheads, beer signs, and local artwork. The



Garret left the Pruneyard in 1992, and moved to its current location on 1777 South Bascom Ave. The live music has left, but it remains a go-to for televised sports, and overall great food and charm.

The Tougas family has worked very hard to make sure all the food is consistently delicious, and you know it will always be grand. For my money, the double cheeseburger is the best burger in Campbell. Make sure they don't overcook it, and you will be very pleased. They also do a great patty melt (\$15.95) that is done the old school way with grilled onions, rye, and melted cheese. Their current bestseller is the Philly cheesesteak (Go Niners!) with grilled onions and bell peppers with shaved sirloin and white American cheese (\$17.95). For lighter appetites, try the turkey avocado with Swiss, lettuce, tomato, on wheat (\$13.95). The Garret has mastered the chicken wing. I believe they are the best around. Allow plenty of time as they are always cooked to order. They come in 10 or 20 pieces and can be ordered with a number of sauces. In addition to Buffalo, try the BBQ, mango habanero, honey mustard, raspberry chipotle, and others. The Garret and Jakes are one big happy family, with Jakes of Saratoga, Sunnyvale, and Willow Glen. There is Garret Campbell, and Garret Station on Winchester in Los Gatos.



Consistency is paramount.

Last, but certainly not least, this brings us to the pizza. And, oh what a pizza it is!! If you're looking for Napoli or New York style with just a handful of ingredients, then this is not for you. The Garret never skimps on ingredients, and there are quite a few to choose from. Try the Garret combo, with Canadian bacon, salami, pepperoni, mushroom, onion, green pepper, black olive, Italian sausage, linguica and beef. Other favorites are the Golden Greek with red sauce, Italian sausage, onion, black olive, pepperoncini, with feta cheese. There's the Gilroy Special with garlic, pepperoni, mushroom, green onion, fresh tomato with creamy garlic sauce. Something different?

Try BBQ chicken with marinated chicken, light pineapple, red onion, drizzled with BBQ sauce and creamy garlic sauce. All are available with a thin crust if you desire. My favorite salad is the Southwestern salad

with chicken. It has corn, black beans, avocado, cotija cheese, tortilla strips, with chipotle vinaigrette.

There is an abundance of long tenured employees that have stuck around for quite awhile. In the picture, newly retired Stevie Crooks was with the Garret for 43 years. Also pictured, Cullen Broman, along with Jeff Innamorato, which have been manning the store for decades now. Great selection of draft beers like Pliny, and local wines like Testarossa make for a great night out. If you want great food done right,



the Garret is a go-to...I'll see you there...Cheers, Billy.

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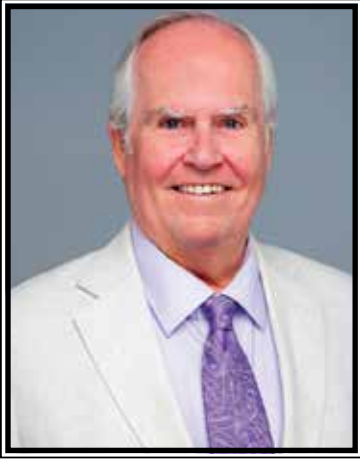
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The New Year is behind us and the traditional beginning of the home selling season is almost upon us. Historically speaking, we often witness a swelling of the inventory of homes for sale and the subsequent increase of home buying in the late winter. By the time of the Vernal Equinox, the beginning of spring, we're usually well into the time of year when the most number of transactions are recorded.

As I wrote in a previous edition, the opportunities for the future are expansive, especially as the overall economy continues to grow. With the equity markets at all-time highs, the national GDP recording higher than expected growth and with

family incomes increasing, it will become easier for many to look towards their future and make it what they want in terms of their Real Estate needs and wants.

Most people want a home to live in. Some look for a home to rent. Others are full-time investors and, whatever your goal, 2026 may be the year to accomplish them. Of course, accomplishing those goals requires some work. Financing is the most popular form of buying a home. A fortunate few have the substantial and available cash to avoid using a bank or credit union. Whichever way you decide to make your goals a reality, now is the time to set up that aspect of owning a home.

For every buyer there needs to be a seller. Recent headline news reported that, nationally, there are 37% more home sellers than buyers. This suggests a buyer's market with so much inventory. A market, however, is local, and locally our shortage of available homes is expected to continue. The National Association of Realtors uses the statistic of months of inventory

(MOI) to determine a seller or buyer's market. While a buyer's market is usually a MOI of more than 4 months indicates a buyer's market, we have consistently shown a MOI of less than 2 months. That leaves sellers with a lot of negotiating strength.

As I began this piece, 2026 is lining up to be a very good year overall, especially when it comes to accomplishing your Real Estate goals. Despite the uncertainty that dominated 2025, we still outperformed 2024 in total sales locally. The expectation is we'll continue to build back to that time when we had a more robust market. Now is the time to get in front of that and I can help.

Being a first time home buyer, a family ready to move up or an investor looking for a profit, we should talk. Achieving your goals is my primary motive. My motto, developed over the years, is, "No one is more dedicated to your goals." Call or email me for the latest on home buying, selling or investing, (408) 887-4731 or geneshomes@earthlink.net.



By Susan Lola

In Canada, the extraordinary comes naturally. The unexpected is just part of the itinerary. From awe-inspiring landscapes at every pitstop to warm-hearted folks always eager to offer a helping hand, what's outstanding to others, is ordinary in Canada.

"Coolcations"

Snowmobiling across the wide-open backcountry of Québec's Charlevoix region to carving down champagne powdered slopes in British Columbia, Canada redefines winter adventure. Snowshoeing beneath the northern lights in the Yukon or dogsledding through Alberta's boreal forests, the chill in the air is just the beginning.

Outdoor Adventure

Untamed landscapes invite you to go further. Paddle past ancient glaciers in Newfoundland's fjords, hike among wildflower meadows in the Rockies, or explore the rugged cliffs of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia on foot. Spring through fall, these natural playgrounds turn everyday explorers into story-worthy adventurers.

One-of-a-Kind Experiences

Cruise alongside Orca whales off the coast of British Columbia, ride a tundra buggy across the icy expanse of Manitoba to spot wild polar bears in Churchill, or feast on fresh Atlantic lobster while standing on the ocean floor during low tide in New Brunswick's Bay of Fundy. From witnessing the thundering migration of caribou in the Arctic tundra to chasing the midnight sun above the 60th parallel in the Yukon or Northwest Territories, they're experiences you won't find anywhere else.

Extraordinary Train Trips

One of the best ways there is to see all that Canada has to offer: train travel. Not only do these rail-journeys allow you to sit back and relax as the country's jaw-dropping landscapes unfold before you, but they also provide a chance to experience vibrant cultures, tour bustling cities and see landmarks along the way.

45 National Parks

Outdoor enthusiast? Then Canada's probably already on your bucket list thanks to its amazing array of national parks. But even if you're not a seasoned hiker, parks

like Glacier National Park in British Columbia and Rouge National Urban Park in Toronto provide plenty of opportunity to explore the country's renowned nature.

Once-in-a-Lifetime Wildlife Viewing

Known for bears, whales, beavers and more. And if you play your cards right, pretty much any trip up north will have you viewing wildlife you can't spot anywhere else. Head to the east coast and spot over 22 species of whales or check out polar bears and belugas in northern Manitoba. On the West Coast, whale watching or heading deep into the rainforest for grizzly bear watching.

Northern Lights

Elusive, gorgeous, often plays hard to get. The aurora borealis, also known as the



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northern lights, are a natural phenomenon so stunning and ethereal, people travel from across the globe for a chance to catch a glimpse of it. You can view them up to 240 nights a year in certain parts of Canada, and the further north you go the more of a sure thing it is you'll spot them.

Indigenous Experiences

Indigenous communities shape the land and deepen every journey. Paddle with Inuit guides in Nunavut, explore Haida Totem Poles on the Pacific coast, or taste wild-foraged cuisine rooted in Cree tradition. From Powwows to paddling routes, from beadwork to buffalo tours, Indigenous stories aren't just told—they're lived, shared, and celebrated every day.



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Bergamot & Basil

This pair of adorable boys are a loving set to not only each other but to people too, we would like them adopted together. Bergamot (the gray and white) and Basil (the black and white) look like ying and yang when napping just look at that photo, but they also find fun in play-wrestling together. They adore time being held and purr up a storm, both are thrilled to be with you and settle down for a night of TV with you on the couch. Basil and Bergamot are a great set - playful and adore each other, and sleep together when play-time is over, and Bergamot is happy to groom Basil when they cuddle, it's so cute. When it comes to play Basil is usually the instigator of all the fun, but Bergamot also can be the one to start it all up! They enjoy balls, the tri-tier, fake mice, spring toys, and wand toys and you can see their videos of them playing even at the pet fair on our website, they are so comfortable with everything. These 5 month old boys are all ready to go, neutered, chipped, tested and all their vaccines.



Contact Janice.Frazier@sbcglobal.net for more information, or see www.13stcats.org for their posting, along with videos, and of course all our other felines for adoption!



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Campbell Crime Report



By Carol W. Gerwitz

Watson Dr. Unknown (S) stole the catalytic converter and O2 sensor from (V)'s vehicle.

Camden Ave. CPD Officers responded to a report of a possible domestic violence. (S) and (V) were contacted and (S) was found to be in violation of a DV restraining order. (S) was determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance CNS Stimulant. Booked.

N. San Tomas Aquino Rd. An unknown (S) used (V)'s bank information to pay for approximately \$4,500 worth of goods from multiple retailers. (S) is unknown and large.

Winchester Blvd. (S) stole \$600 of meat and fled the scene.

E. Hamilton Ave./S. Bascom Ave. Vehicle driving with headlights off was stopped. (S1) and (S2) were found to have outstanding warrants. (S1) was also determined to be driving under the influence. (S2) was found to be in possession of a

controlled substance. (S1) and (S2) booked.

E. Hamilton Ave./S. Bascom Ave. (S) was stopped at the DUI checkpoint. (S) was determined to be under the combined influence of alcohol and a CNS stimulant and in possession of cocaine on his person and in his vehicle along with a 9mm handgun and a loaded magazine in the center console of the vehicle. Booked.

Winchester Blvd. (S) was reported as acting intoxicated and walking in the roadway. (S) was contacted and displayed objective symptoms of being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. Booked.

Dell Ave. Officers were dispatched to a report of (S) grabbing and pushing (V). Officers arrived on scene and contacted (V). (V) stated (S) pushed and pinned her to a wall, attempted to steal keys by force and fear. (S) was arrested at a different location.

W. Campbell Ave. (S) and (V) got into an argument. (S) pushed (V) which caused her to hit her head. (S) and (V) left

the house and were stopped by police. Booked.

Orchard City Dr. (S) was reported to be intoxicated. (S) was too drunk to care for himself. Arrested, then released at the hospital.

Leigh Ave./Gladys Way (S) was in violation of multiple CVC's. (S) displayed objective signs and symptoms of alcohol intoxication. Arrested.

E. Campbell Ave. (S) had fled scene after colliding into (V)'s vehicle. (S) stated she was unaware of collision. (V) desired prosecution. To DA.

Campisi Way (S) was contacted at encampment/ pollution within 150 of Los Gatos Creek high water mark. Cited and released.

S. Bascom Ave. (S) was stopped and determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance and provided a false name to conceal two misdemeanor warrants. Booked.

S. Winchester Blvd. (S) punched a gas pump screen, breaking it, then fled.

Creekside Way (S) was found in the area of an encampment, was determined to be under the influence of a controlled substance, and provided a false name to CPD Officers. Booked.

Winchester Blvd. (S) was causing a disturbance at the store and making criminal threats to (V). Booked.

S. Bascom Ave. (S) was stopped for Campbell Municipal Code while riding a bike and gave consent to search his person. A search of (S)'s wallet revealed he was in possession of drug paraphernalia. Cited and released.

E. Hamilton Ave. (S) was contacted and determined that (S) possessed a forged US residency card that did not belong to him. Cited and released.

E. Hamilton Ave. (S) was concealing items in his pockets. (S) was contacted outside by CPD officers, and determined he had stolen items. Cited and released.

Marathon Dr. (S) and (V) were involved in a verbal argument,

where (S) stated he was going to come back and harm (V). (V) desired prosecution. To D.A.

W. Hacienda Ave. (S) dropped a glass door which shattered on the street; (S) was later contacted and issued a citation for unlawful dumping.

Superior Dr./W. Latimer Ave. (S) was involved in a solo vehicle collision. (S) was determined to be DUI. Booked.

San Tomas Expy./W. Campbell Ave. (S) was in possession of drug paraphernalia in violation of his active probation. Booked.

White Oaks Rd. (S) was contacted while prowling. (S) was discovered to be in possession of stolen items, drugs, and drug paraphernalia; had prior drug convictions; and was out on bail. Booked.

W. Campbell Ave. (S) was seen looking into windows, and trying door handles. (S) was contacted and determined to be too intoxicated to care for himself. Transported to the sobering center.

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Live 105 Honored as Legendary Station of the Year



As it approaches its 40th anniversary in 2026, San Francisco's Live 105 (KITS 105.3 FM) is being recognized as the *Legendary Station of the Year* by the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame (BARHOF) and the California Historical Radio Society (CHRS). This honor celebrates the station's enduring impact on modern rock radio and its deep roots within Bay Area broadcasting history. Established in 1986, Live 105 boldly declared itself "The Station That Dared to Be Different." Long before *Billboard* introduced its Modern Rock Tracks chart, Live 105 was already shaping the sound of alternative music. Under the leadership of program director Richard Sands and music director and air

personality Steve Masters, the station quickly became a pioneer of modern rock radio. Artists such as Depeche Mode, The Cure, R.E.M., Talking Heads, and U2 frequently filled its playlists, earning KITS a national reputation for innovation and edge.

Throughout its early years, notable personalities including Alex Bennett, Lori Thompson, Lisa Carr, Mark Hamilton, Roland West, and "Big Rick" Stuart helped define the voice and character of the station. Among those early contributors was Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame Class of 2021 inductee Dana Jang, who joined Live 105 soon after its rebranding from Hot Hits. His early weekend shows bridged the transition from Top 40

to alternative rock, reflecting the experimental spirit that would define Live 105 for decades to come.

Jang's time at the station was filled with memorable moments—commuting between San Jose and San Francisco, navigating live events like Bay to Breakers, and witnessing firsthand the evolution of a new musical movement. His behind-the-scenes experiences offer a glimpse into the dedication, creativity, and occasional chaos that produced radio magic during those pivotal years. Many of his colleagues would go on to shape the industry, both on-air and in record promotion, fostering the same musical passion Live 105 inspired.

The station's influence only grew through the 1990s

and 2000s with long-running concert series such as *BFD* and *Not So Silent Night*, and with Aaron Axelsen's *Soundcheck* showcasing emerging and local artists. Even after periods of rebranding—including turns as ALT 105.3 and Dave FM—Live 105's identity endured. Its 2023 return to its original name marked a full-circle moment celebrating four decades of modern rock leadership.

"Live 105 was simply the coolest station in the Bay Area during the 1980s, into the 1990s, and beyond," said Bay Area Radio Museum founder David Jackson. "And its listeners knew it was just that."

Original program director Richard Sands added, "Love, passion, and hard

work—those are what made Live 105 legendary. It took an incredible team of creative, dedicated, and sometimes wonderfully dysfunctional people to build something that lasted."

A celebration honoring Live 105's legacy will take place at "Radio Central" in Alameda, home of CHRS, on the evening of Friday, January 30, 2026. Many of the station's original staff, including Jang and other Bay Area radio greats, are expected to attend.

Forty years after its debut, Live 105 remains more than a frequency—it stands as a cultural landmark that continues to echo through Bay Area airwaves, reminding listeners why daring to be different never goes out of style.

Honoring Rhythm, Legacy, and Community: Patti J. Hirabayashi and Roy Hirabayashi Receive SJSU Distinguished Alumni Award

On March 12, 2026, the San José State University Alumni Association will present one of its highest honors—the Distinguished Alumni Award—to Patti J. Hirabayashi and Roy Hirabayashi, cofounders of San Jose Taiko and two of the most influential cultural arts leaders in the region. The award recognizes their decades long commitment to artistic excellence, community empowerment, and the preservation and evolution of Japanese American performing arts.

For more than half a century, the Hirabayashis have shaped the cultural landscape of San José and beyond. Their work with San Jose Taiko, founded in 1973,

transformed a small grassroots ensemble into one of the most respected taiko groups in North America. What began as a community based experiment in rhythm and identity has grown into a nationally recognized arts organization known for its innovation, inclusivity, and educational impact.

San Jose Taiko's signature style—rooted in traditional Japanese drumming yet infused with jazz, world music, and the multicultural spirit of the South Bay—reflects the Hirabayashis' belief that art thrives when it welcomes collaboration. Under their leadership, the ensemble became a training ground for generations of performers, educators, and

cultural ambassadors. Their workshops, youth programs, and artist residencies have introduced thousands to the power of taiko as both a musical discipline and a vehicle for community building.

Patti J. Hirabayashi, known for her artistic direction and commitment to education, helped shape the ensemble's choreography, musical arrangements, and teaching philosophy. Her work emphasized mindfulness, teamwork, and the idea that taiko is as much about personal growth as it is about performance.

Roy Hirabayashi, a driving force in the group's early development, championed taiko as a tool for cultural expression and social connection.

His leadership helped establish San Jose Taiko as a pioneer in the Asian American arts movement, forging partnerships with artists across disciplines and continents.

Together, the Hirabayashis built an organization that not only performs but also preserves history, nurtures creativity, and strengthens community ties. Their legacy is visible in the countless students who have passed through San Jose Taiko's doors, the international collaborations they inspired, and the enduring presence of taiko in the cultural identity of the Bay Area.

The Distinguished Alumni Award celebrates alumni who exemplify the values of San José State

University through professional achievement and service. For Patti and Roy Hirabayashi, the honor reflects a lifetime of dedication to cultural arts, community empowerment, and the belief that rhythm—shared openly and joyfully—can bring people together.

As San Jose Taiko continues to thrive, the Hirabayashis' influence remains unmistakable. Their work stands as a testament to what can happen when creativity, heritage, and community intersect, and their recognition by SJSU marks not just a personal milestone, but a celebration of the cultural vibrancy they helped cultivate.



As the 2026 football championship game heads to Levi's Stadium on Sunday, February 8, the City of Mountain View is welcoming residents and visitors

to celebrate. Enjoy family-friendly activities, local business specials, and community events that bring the spirit of the game to Mountain View.

Tailgate Party

Warm up for game day with a community tailgate! Come Downtown on **Saturday, Feb. 7, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.** for music, games, giveaways, and other fan-friendly fun.

Downtown businesses will be serving up special deals and meals, check out the map below to make your tailgate experience complete!





San Jose State University Alumni Association Honors Patrick Simmons and Tom Johnston of the Doobie Brothers

San Jose rock legends Patrick Simmons and Tom Johnston are heading back to their college in March, when the San Jose State University Alumni Association will honor the Doobie Brothers co-founders with Lifetime Achievement Awards.

In the late 1960s, San Jose State was still a college; the campus crackled with the same countercultural energy that swept the rest of the Bay Area. Tom Johnston arrived from Visalia in 1968 to study art, guitar in hand, and quickly found himself immersed in a local scene where coffeehouses, biker bars, and student hangouts blurred together. Not long after, he crossed paths with Patrick Simmons, a San Jose native and Leigh High School graduate who was also attending San Jose State and quietly building a reputation for his intricate fingerpicking and warm, unhurried vocals.

They ended up sharing a modest Craftsman house at 285 South 12th Street, a

place that would become the band's first headquarters, creative laboratory, and unofficial clubhouse. Musicians from across the South Bay cycled through the basement jam space — guitarists, drummers, horn players — answering an open invitation that if you could play, you could sit in. The sound that emerged from those late-night sessions became the foundation of the Doobie Brothers, blending rock, R&B, and a distinctly West Coast sense of groove.

By 1974, the Doobie Brothers were an established act, but Patrick Simmons was still the understated presence on stage — the long-haired guitarist off to the side, fingerpicking his acoustic and singing in a relaxed, conversational tone. During a break in a recording session that year, Simmons absentmindedly began picking out a gentle, rolling guitar figure, more to pass the time than create a hit. On the other side of the glass, producer Ted Templeman heard

the riff come through the talkback speaker and immediately stopped the room. "What is that?" he asked. Soon, stations across the South followed suit. Warner Bros. took the hint, re-issuing "Black Water" as an A-side, and by March 1975 the once-overlooked B-side had climbed all the way to Number One on the Billboard Hot 100. The quiet guitarist from San Jose had delivered the Doobie Brothers' first chart-topping single, almost by accident.

A house, a pizza joint, and a historic landmark

For Campbell readers accustomed to strolling downtown or catching a show nearby, the geography of the Doobie Brothers' early days feels remarkably close to home. From the now-landmarked 12th Street house, just a short drive from Campbell's historic downtown, the band ventured out to neighborhood venues like Ricardo's Pizza on Willow Street, where late-night sets helped build a loyal

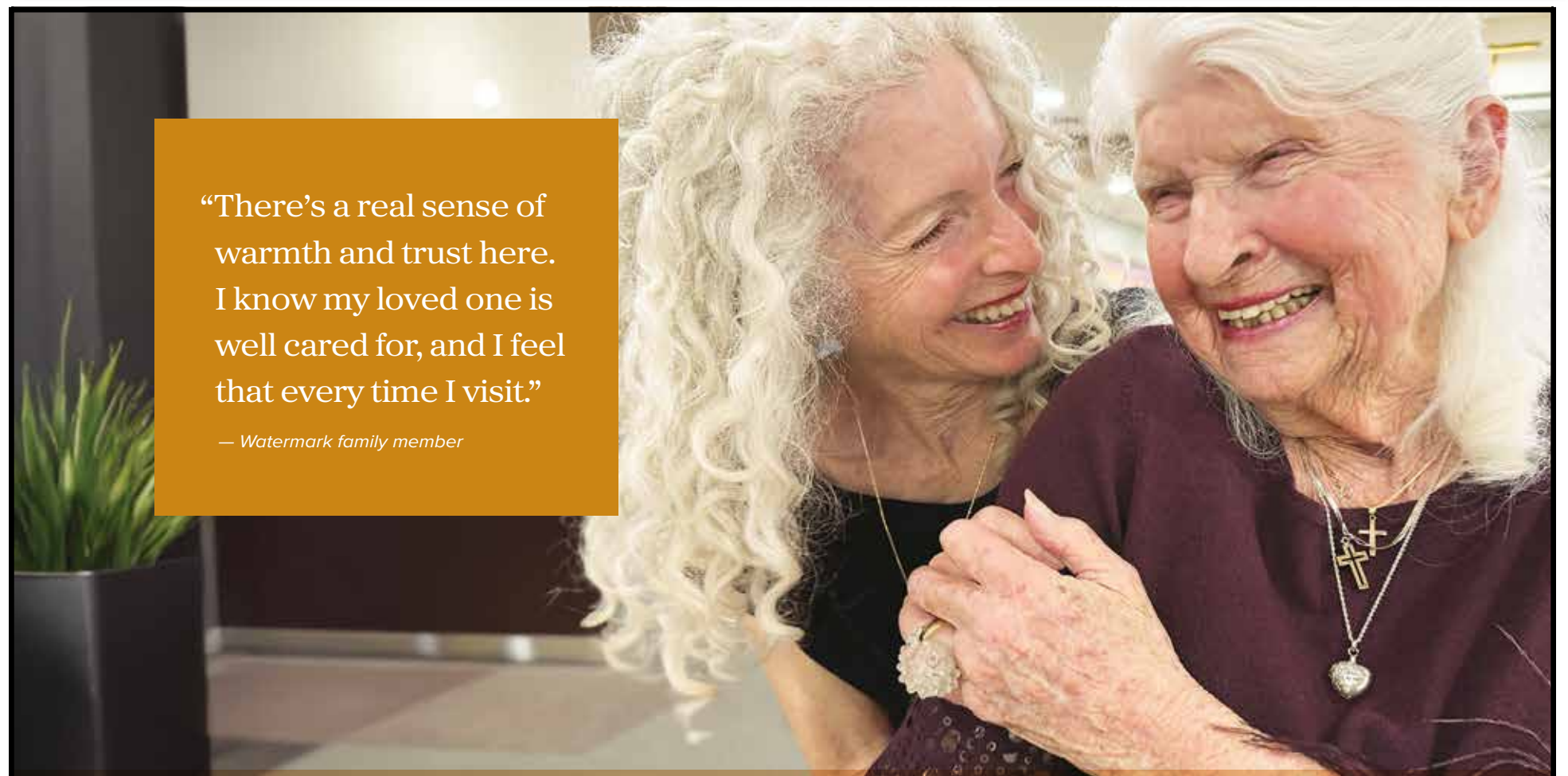
regional following. It was at Ricardo's that a record company executive finally took notice and offered the group its first recording contract, launching their path from South Bay bars to international tours.

The house at 285 South 12th Street, built in 1907 by architect Wesley Warren Hastings, has since been formally recognized by the City of San Jose as a historic landmark, in part because of its role in nurturing the band's early sound. Its distinctive porch — once lined with motorcycles belonging to the band's biker friends — and its basement rehearsal room are now part of local lore, a physical reminder that some of rock's most enduring records began life in an old Craftsman on a quiet residential block.

The March ceremony at San Jose State will be more than a reunion for Simmons and Johnston; it will be a celebration of an entire era of campus life that still reverberates through the region.

Today, Campbell residents can walk their own historic streets knowing that some of rock's most recognizable riffs were written just a few miles away, in a neighborhood that once echoed with drums and guitars long after midnight. The Doobie Brothers' induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2020 and the Songwriters Hall of Fame recognition for Simmons, Johnston, and Michael McDonald in 2025 may seem like distant, national honors, but they are anchored in a local story that stretches from San Jose's campus to living rooms across the West Valley.

In March, when Simmons and Johnston step back onto the San Jose State campus to accept their Lifetime Achievement Awards, they will be returning not just to their alma mater, but to the place where a house, a campus, and a community helped launch a sound that still drifts over the South Bay — all the way to Campbell.



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