FINE FORGIVENESS

MLK Library waives late fees in the month of May

BY MARGARET GUTIERREZ
Staff Writer

The San Jose Public Library system started the Two-Step Fine Forgiveness Program on May 1. The month-long program allows library members to return late items with associated late fees zeroed out with no questions asked.

“The program started on May 1 and is intended to wipe out any late fees accrued for books that were checked out of the library,” said Martin Luther King Jr. Library information desk member Pascilla Rodriguez. “In some cases there were those with late fees as high as $200, which was preventing them from coming into the library and returning the books.”

In order to take advantage of the fine forgiveness option, library users must return their late items to one of the 23 library locations in San Jose. Once the items are returned, users need to speak to a library employee or call one of the locations to have the late fees waived. This limited time program will only apply to late items returned in the month of May. It will not remove outstanding late fees that existed prior to the program.

The San Jose Public Library system spread the message about the fine forgiveness program by advertising it on social media, handing out flyers in the library locations, connecting with city council members to include information about the program on their newsletters and working closely with local media.

Advertisements were produced in different languages and featured on ABC7, NBC Bay Area, Telemundo, Univision and other media outlets in order to engage with various communities in San Jose. Advertisements also ran on ABC7, and working closely with local media.

Among the staff at the CDC, from May 1 - 31, San Jose Public Library is waiving all late fees.

FINE FORGIVENESS

San Jose Public Library’s Two-step Fine Forgiveness Plan

From May 1 - 31, San Jose Public Library is waiving all late fees.

Step 1: Return late materials (i.e. books, DVDs, CDs) to any San Jose Public Library location.
Step 2: Visit or call your local library to waive your late fees.

INFORMATION RETRIEVED FROM SAN JOSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

INFOGRAPHIC BY NICOLE CHUNG

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Experts talk post-grad life

BY PAYJE REDMOND
Staff Writer

Standing just over two feet tall, babies and toddlers ate ice cream topped with sprinkles and syrup at the Childhood Development Center.

"I bring my son to the library often to utilize the center," San Jose resident Janet Madrigal said. "The late fees have been a big issue." San Jose resident Preston Davis said, “I’m taking five classes, I’m able to study and not worry about him at all.”

Nguyen speaks with Preston’s teachers every morning to see how Preston is behaving and developing. "He likes it here, he is very happy," Nguyen said.

This month-long play area offers an array of play structures that include slides, mini rock walls and tire swings. After admittance to the pre-school, children and teachers have introductory meetings where daily routine is discussed.

Davis said the staff spends a lot of time getting to know the families and children beforehand, so the child can make the adjustment to a classroom setting. Among the staff at the CDC, from May 1 - 31, San Jose Public Library is waiving all late fees.

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Experts talk post-grad life

BY PAYJE REDMOND
Staff Writer

Kappo Alpha Phi Fraternity, Inc. hosted a panel discussion in the Student Union focusing on diversity in the tech industry and how to get ahead before graduation.

The room was full of students who wrote down notes, made comments and engaged with professionals in the tech industry. They gave advice and encouraged students to contact them if they were interested in their profession or needed further guidance in the future.

This panel allowed for students to network and take advice from current diverse workers in the tech workforce.

“They were always the woman and woman of color in my classes,” said Aja Canyon, marketing manager for Intel. “I kind of just expected it and the biggest surprise was how much support there is for women in tech.”

Speakers stressed the need for diversity in the workplace and what needs to change in order to continue moving forward.

“I feel like diversity is key,” said finance junior Matthew Fortuna. “I feel like the more people that come from different backgrounds, the more ideas can come out from different cultures. One hundred minds are better than one. This is the second discussion hosted by the multicultural fraternity in regards to learning how to thrive in the real world after getting a degree.

“The theme of this event is ‘We Need More!’ meaning, we need more diversity,” said business management senior and president of Kappa Alpha Phi fraternity, Derek Fisher. This discussion focused on the techniques and tools to use when applying to jobs after graduation.

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Panelists talk about various discussion points in the Student Union on Tuesday.

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Five years worth the wait for new Gorillaz album

BY KARIANNE SUDYKA
Staff Writer

After a long five years without a new album, Gorillaz fans finally have new tracks to rock out to while making their way downtown, walking around campus, or driving around town.

Following in the footsteps of its last album “Plastic Beach,” “Humanz” includes many collaborations with different artists such as Anthony Hamilton and Shelley Massenburg-Smith, better known as D.R.A.M. During the campaign before the release of “Humanz,” Gorillaz released “Hallelujah Money” which features Benjamin Clementine. It got the public and the media’s attention not just because it was the first hint of an album from the world-renowned multi-genre group, but also because it was released the day before President Donald Trump’s inauguration.

“In those dark times, we all need someone to look up to,” Gorillaz frontman Murdoc said. “Me. That’s why I’m giving you this new Gorillaz song — a lightning bolt of truth in a black night.”

Prior to April 28, Gorillaz pushed for its followers to download its mobile application which allowed access to the “hallowed halls of the Gorillaz house in Colima, a coastal state in Mexico, but she lives in San Francisco. She does her best to avoid the cravings.

Correction
On Tuesday, May 9, the Spartan Daily published an article “Silicon Valley Bike Festival lands in San Jose” where Brian Fanger was misidentified. The Spartan Daily regrets this error.

Follow Carolina on Twitter @xoxoxcaro
I realized she asked me if I was in EOP because she found out I was African-American. To make matters worse, when I told her “no,” she asked me why not. I responded that I am not a first-generation student, which is another qualification to be admitted into the program. According to Reardon’s research shows that black and Latino students are more likely to attend schools where the majority of their peers are low-income. This leads to low performing schools in low socioeconomic areas, according to Reardon. It’s no secret that poverty and lack of education are related. Individuals that struggle economically may have a harder time prospecting academically because resources to education can be expensive, among other systemic barriers. “Among working, low-income Latino families, minority youth have at least one parent without a high school diploma,” according to the Los Angeles Times. “The inequality is systemic and continues to get worse through a generational cycle.” In California, 44 percent of families headed by a working minority parent are considered low-income, compared to 16 percent of white families, according to research done by the Working Poor Families Project. Working Poor Families Project is a national initiative aimed at developing policies to educate and train adults to close the gap in the economic work force. As SJSU enrollment of black students has decreased in the past four years while Hispanic enrollment has increased. Although there is a partial disparity between the two minorities, it’s safe to say California is seeing an increase of minority students graduating high school and going to college. As a former student in Los Angeles Unified School District in San Fernando Valley, I noticed it was often the only black kid in my advanced and accelerated classes, but never questioned why. As an adult in college I’ve learned that the process of getting into a high school or middle school outside of your neighborhood is difficult. It’s even more challenging to figure out the testing to get into advanced or special interest programs. For children whose parents don’t work in education, understanding the system can be confusing. I realize now that this system may deter minorities from trying, especially when the alternative is to stay at their local school and take the bare minimum amount of classes to graduate high school. When communities don’t have the proper funding for specialized programs, it can hinder students ability to properly academically and them from competing for college acceptance.
Millennial dating - let's just say it's complicated

Tiana Walker Staff Writer

Our generation's idea of "dating" probably confuses our parents with the idea of "sexual activity," that make answering the "What are we?" question with your crush a lot easier.

I think the people who use them really know what they mean. Dating can be confusing if you're not in that place, but add in social media and texting and it's nearly impossible to make sense of it.

"Talking" is when two people are involved with each other. They are probably texting all the time and maybe talking on the phone. Overall, they are just getting to know each other. If you successfully make it through the "talking" stage that's it to go on dates.

"Talking" is this generation's dating around," said communications sophomore Eman Cooper.

Unlike the generation before us, our generation doesn't have a clear relationship.

Many students don't know where they should be with their crush or what the relationship has begun.

"Talking doesn't have a concrete definition," said Cooper. "Oh, you heard my heart. You must like me."

"Although it may sound silly this is how generations are trying to communicate. Sending someone a message online is more personal and intimate than moving on to the phone."

"Talking is convenient [because] you don't have to be in the same place at the same time," said communication senior Madisyn Rutherford.

It seems that "talking" is an excuse to maintain a relationship without having to make the "talking" stage that's it to go on dates. "Technically, you can do whatever you want," Cooper said.

You can't get mad if she's not talking to him because, "It's just talking."

He also talked about the "talking" stage.

"I don't follow that model," Cooper said. "She believes that you should only talk to one person at a time. And if you're not talking back, you should look straight ahead." No talking to other people.

But at the same time why not, you're allowed to talk to anyone else because, after all, you're "just talking.""

Fear of rejection seems to be a force in today's dating. The "talking" stage is prolonged because both people involved are too afraid to go to the next level.

People don't want to go on dates because of the fear of feeling unwanted. "The "talking" stage is growing for our generation due to the fear of rejection and the fear of being alone." Rutherford believes that people over think asking someone on a date.

"I was born into the fact that you can't even fall in love with me," Rutherford said about those that feel like they can't go on dates.

Rutherford also believes that people who don't know where they stand will end up after graduation, making a commitment to something so uncertain creates even more havoc.

"But at the same time why not, you're only alive once," Rutherford said.

Days don't have to be a complicated, grand gesture. They can be as simple as grabbing coffee.

"It should end as a nice listening of music -- little reddown moves," Cooper said.

"Nothing closing the deal. Just enjoying the day and the moment together." Rutherford believes that people are getting more connected with each other, but they are oblivious as to how to do it. "Social media is us," said Cooper.

"Although it may sound silly this is how generations are trying to communicate. Sending someone a message online is more personal and intimate than moving on to the phone." Rutherford also believes that the reason people are afraid of talking is because of the fear of rejection and the fear of being alone.

"I'm not sure if it's exclusive, you should see each other and talk to one person at at a time. And if you are you're only allowed to talk to anyone else because, after all, you're "just talking.""

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BY DANIEL REEDY
The Spartan

While pitching doesn’t technically win championships, the Spartan arm is certainly carrying the team toward the Mountain West title.

San Jose State shut down the Utah State Aggies in Game 3 of the series 6-1, Spartan starter Kennedy Linford threw her 16th complete game of the season, holding Utah State to just one run and five hits. The lefty won 10 and didn’t walk a single Aggie.

“Linford was throwing well,” said SJSU head coach Peter Turner. “Limited and Collette Rigg really just carrying the load.” Linford threw a total of 14 innings this weekend, conceding four runs as her and Rigs score (innings, zero earned runs) stifled the formerly first place Aggies that were tagged for three runs in two and a half innings. Brow had ranked fifth in the conference in hits and leads the team in hits, doubles and RBIs.

“With the sweep by SJSU, the Spartans are likely to capture their first conference title since the 2013 team won the Western Athletic Conference title. Watt is the only member remaining from that team. Freshman phenom Kellie White (top-6 in Mountain West Conference softball championship hunt)

HIKING REVIEW
Alum Rock Park is great for intermediate workout

BY TIANA WALKER
Staff Writer

Alum Rock Park has a lot to offer for those wishing to get exercise in the fresh air.

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The park defintely has pleasant scenery with an abundance of wildlife. While some areas have a dirt trail and pavement on the opposite side for a smoother ride, which makes this park good for families with children or those wishing to get in a moderate workout.

Alum Rock Park’s trails are much easier compared to Mission Peak’s trails. The incline is not very steep. However, there are some areas with narrow pathways. The park has a great deal of trees that provide shade while walking through the trails. Parking is pretty simple. There are multiple lots that offer free parking. The only parking lot that you have to pay for is located next to the Alum Rock Visitor Center and Youth Science Institute which has a fee daily.

Sulfur and mineral spring throughout the area. The smell of sulfur might be off-putting to some, but overall it is not too strong.

There are also benches and picnic areas for guests to wind down at after their hike. Visitors can play soccer or volleyball in open spaces meant for recreation.

If you are someone who has to exercise with your pet, then this may not be the park for you because pets of any kind are not allowed. This is an understandable limitation due to the abundance of wildlife.

The trails at the park differ in intensity level, but for the most part are not very difficult. It also depends on your personal exercise goals. If you normally walk or jog around a track or community park, then Alum Rock is an amazing change of scenery.

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