The Jewish Faculty and Staff Association hosted a vigil for Israeli victims on Wednesday afternoon at the Tower Lawn Fountain. The Jewish Faculty and Staff Association represents the Jewish community's interests at San José State University according to the university's website.

More than 50 people attended the event, some holding electronic candles or the national flag of the State of Israel.

The Israeli government declared war in retaliation against Hamas, a political and militant organization currently governing the Gaza Strip, after they attacked communities in Southern Israel on Saturday, according to a Saturday AP News article.

Mitch Reitman, assistant director of Hillel of Silicon Valley and organizer of the vigil, said other campuses around the country held vigils on Saturday, the day of the attack.

Hillel of Silicon Valley is a multi-campus organization that supports Jewish students at San José State University, Santa Clara University, West Valley College, Foothill College, De Anza College and across Silicon Valley, according to its website.

Reitman said SJSU organized the vigil three days later so students, Jewish Faculty and Staff Association, Hillel and ministers could gather to participate to show their support.

"We want to involve the student groups and we need to be here to be able to access the students during the week," Reitman said. "So that's why it hasn't happened till now."

Shaya Bernstein, a rabbi at Chabad at SJSU, said the vigil was held to honor those who have been killed, injured or missing through prayer.

"We traditionally used to pray for those that are wounded, so just coming together to pray we believe is powerful," Bernstein said.

Bernstein said he read from the book of Psalms, a traditional religious text in Jewish and Christian literature, because it is a source of inspiration to encourage others during a time of healing.

Reitman said he was grateful to members of SJSU's administration, members of Associated Students, the police department and Mosaic Cross Cultural Center for attending to show support for the Jewish community on campus.

"We want people to feel comforted, we want people to feel safe," Reitman said. "We want them to know what resources are available to them."

Reitman said the vigil also serves to uplift and strengthen the Jewish community, especially those connected to Israel.

"I spoke to some people who are here or actually are from Israel, and they're here all alone," Bernstein said. "That really is the power of community to realize that you're not alone and not here by yourself."

Jonathan Roth, history professor and organizer of the vigil, said the vigil was not a rally or political statement, but a gathering to support each other, mourn their losses and pray for peace.

Reitman said the statement written by SJSU's administration sounded vague and not as supportive as he was hoping for to help support Jewish students.

"While many have strong feelings about the long history of struggle in the Middle East, no matter one's perspective, the violence and terror taking place halfway around the world reverberate here," Dawn Lee, interim chief diversity officer, stated in a Tuesday university email.

Members of Student Affairs have reached out to multiple student groups who represent affected communities, according to the same email.

"Having a vigil is not a rally, not a political statement, but to support each other, mourn our loss and pray for peace," Reitman said.

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Local restaurant owners announce closing

By Brandon Nicolas

In the heat of San Jose-Japantown stands JT Express, a family-owned and operated restaurant on Jackson Street that offers authentic Japanese and Korean cuisine, and sushi rolls, the restaurant is set to close by the end of October as the owners prepare for retirement. Co-owners of JT Express and San Jose State alumni Steve Sakai wakes up before sunrise each day to prepare produce from local markets. By 7:30 a.m., Sakai and his wife Tiffany, a former customer of JT Express, welcome customers and they set up for service. Sakai took over Tensu sushi, a restaurant west of campus that shut down and is now home to SpottedFish Poké.

"A couple of our friends owned the place and wanted to get out of the business, and we said, "Okay, " Sakai said. "So Sakai and the Tensu sushi team was kept short to give students a cheap alternative to taking out the restaurants that they understood that many college students were struggling financially. They offer a lunch menu that includes a variety of sushi and other traditional Japanese dishes, including rolls like cream cheese and tuna. "This is my first time here," said a young woman who just entered the restaurant. "It's very nice, and the atmosphere is very nice." Along the way, Sakai told us about his background and how he got into the restaurant business.

At the end of September, Sakai partnered with San Jose State's Albert Chou, a social media and communications director, to create a restaurant called JT Express. The restaurant is located in the heart of Japantown, and it's known for its fresh ingredients and authentic Japanese cuisine.

"I was at a point in my life where I realized that I wanted to do something different, " Chou said. "I've always been passionate about food, and I've always been passionate about the local community." In the past year, JT Express has been able to establish a loyal customer base and has seen a steady increase in sales.

"I think the key to our success is offering a unique dining experience, " Sakai said. "We offer a variety of sushi options, as well as traditional Japanese dishes, and we have a focus on fresh, locally sourced ingredients." JT Express also offers a variety of vegetarian and vegan options, making it a popular spot for those looking for healthy and delicious food.

"I love seeing the happy faces of our customers, " Sakai said. "It's rewarding to see people enjoying our food and the atmosphere." JT Express is committed to providing a welcoming and comfortable dining experience for all guests.

"If you're looking for a place to eat with friends or family, JT Express is the perfect spot," Sakai said. "We offer a variety of dishes to suit all tastes, and we're always happy to accommodate special requests or dietary needs." JT Express is open seven days a week, with a menu that changes seasonally to reflect the freshest ingredients.

"We're excited to continue growing and expanding JT Express to meet the needs of our community, " Sakai said. "We appreciate the support of our customers and look forward to serving many more people in the future." JT Express is located at 410 Jackson Street in San Jose, and they can be reached at (408) 299-0123. Customers sit outside of family-owned restaurant JT Express on Sunday.
SJSU hosts a sustainability fair

By Julia Chie

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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SJSU hosts a sustainability fair

San Jose State University hosted the Sustainability Fair, themed from Ecosystems to Food Systems, on Wednesday, Oct. 13.

The fair was held to educate students about sustainable food systems from the organizations and vendors present at the event according to the SJSU said he was at the event food demonstrations coincide with sustainable food systems and healthy lifestyles. Environmental studies major Mahlet Hailu said the fair was at the fair representing the Environmental Resource Center, which is part of the environmental studies and sciences.

"They're trying to bring more awareness and promote really cool things like the environmental and social justice themes, and to come in and participate and help, and support each other through these goals and things that the Environmental Resource Center is trying to achieve," Hailu said.

"The Environmental Resource Center is the event that they get the most energy, and money into is Earth Day, (which will happen) next semester. There they try to find sustainable, local sponsors to help the Environmental Resource Center," Hailu said.

"For anyone who is anxious about how much access to resources is a really good way to be involved," Hailu said.

"Being a Spartan, there's so many sustainable incorporations you can have on campus, like with the clothes closet, the sustainable transportation unit or the community garden," Hailu said.

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Wellness and Health Inspired Student Kitchen hosts a cooking demonstration and serves free food samples for students on 7th Street.

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I don’t know who decided that putting a seven-foot clown in the direct path of a child was a good idea, but luckily it didn’t ruin the season for me.

I finally am able to do costumed cookouts with my friends because I’ve earned my wings for years, as now I have a partner willing to be my Ken doll and dress by me for Halloween. I have a list that could be turned into a novel of costume ideas for the two of us, some of which we have already executed perfectly. I’m a stereotypical introvert, so as soon as that autumn chill hits, pumpkins patches, cinnamon brooms, and sweaters dance around my feed. I adore fall outfits and finally pulling out my favorite long-sleeve shirts with the fear of losing sweatshirts on them. Apple picking, ramping in leaf piles, taking spooky-themed photos, sending me just a text and I’m there! My friend, who has always centered October weekends in my childhood.

My favorite memories have always centered around the season. My mother always made costume, making each girl that was raised on for me. It wasn’t ruined the season for me. I don’t know who decided that putting a seven-foot clown in the direct path of the children’s section was a good idea, but luckily it didn’t ruin the season for me.

I am in love with the fall season.

Alícia Alvarez

Alícia Alvarez
PRODUCTION EDITOR

I woke up one morning every year for a bazaar to carry an intoxicating chill and a euphoric scent of cinnamon. Watching the leaves slowly morph into a rainbow of earthly colors and hearing them crunch beneath my feet makes fall season tolerable.

Walking into my aunt’s house and being greeted with the smell of pumpkin is a dreamt reality every time celebrated on Nov. 1 and Nov. 2, it is believed in Hispanic culture that the spirits of the dead return to the world of the living to spend time with their family members according to an article from The Mexican Museum. The holiday allows me to celebrate and honor my ancestors, family members I have yet to meet. Dia de los Muertos allows me to connect to my paternal grandmother. I’m named after her. Dia de los Muertos got me something I lacked for most of my life, a sense of loving connection to my culture. I fall in love with the season every single time I recall that fall brings this special connection and memory in my lovingly cold arms. Walking into my local Trader Joe’s and seeing a swirl of colors fills my heart. It’s going to be like it. I already planned our costumes, little does he know he still has to wear it despite being hundreds of miles away.

While I no longer celebrate Thanksgiving, I still have fond memories of that time I marched to fall. My mother and I never entered the pre-assigned food for this holiday, so one year, we decided to change it. Instead of dry turkey and gravy mashed potatoes, we made our favorite foods. Potato pancake, garlic bread, fruits and vegetables lined up. The holiday was always just the two of us on Thanksgiving, but I never complained. I cherish that annual cold

fall night and the memories of my mom and I dancing in the kitchen as we cook. We turned the holiday that neither of us ever liked into our own tradition. I remember cutting up on the couch with my mom after our first Thanksgiving meal with ice cream and warm apple pie to watch whatever show she was obsessed with at the time. I’m excited to return to this little tradition as soon as I’m able to tear myself away from campus.

Of course, I love the simple things that fall brings too.

Poorly carved pumpkins and horror movies that make me hide beneath blankets instead of watching them are my favorite seasonal activities.

Spooky date nights are the top of my to-do list for autumn. I’m forming my wonderful long-distance boyfriend to sit through a zoom call with me while he bakes those adorable little Halloween cookies and I’m going to like it. I already planned our costumes, little does he know he still has to wear it despite being hundreds of miles away.

Despite my vehement hatred for pumpkin spice, which is a terrible flavor and should be discontinued, I will always hold this spooky season close to my heart.

Follow Alícia on Twitter: @alicialvarez_02

GRAPHIC BY ALICIA ALVAREZ

am in love with the fall season
Croskey-Merritt is averaging 122.7 rushing yards per game and has 7 rushing touchdowns. SJU is the second-worst rushing defense in the country. Opponents average 229.7 rushing yards a game and 5.3 yards per rush.

"The fact is we are one of the worst run defenses in college football right now," said SJU linebacker Scott White. "We get to put that out there.

The Spartans will also face another team that plays two quarterbacks. Against Boise State, SJU gave up a combined 229 passing yards and 5 touchdowns. New Mexico quarterback Dylan Hopkins is the team’s pure passing quarterback and takes most of the Lobos’ downs. Quarterback DC Tabscott is used whenever New Mexico is in short-yardage downs and is more of a dual-threat quarterback.

"There needs to be a heightened sense of urgency when it comes to controlling the line of scrimmage," White said. On the offensive end, the Spartans could have an edge over a young New Mexico defense. The Lobos have the second-worst red zone defense in the conference. The Spartans have shown the ability to get into the red zone at times and could take advantage of running back Kairee Robinson’s ability to score near the goal line.

Robinson has scored a rushing touchdown in every game he’s played in, and recorded 133 yards from scrimmage against Boise State. "It’s always good to have the running game going on," Cordeiro said. "It makes my job easier in the passing game and it opens up lanes offensively." Cordeiro has not thrown a touchdown pass since SJU’s game against Toledo four weeks ago. SJU has scheduled non-conference games against Idaho State football schedule in the coming weeks. "SJU is scheduled to play New Mexico at 3 p.m. PDT Saturday at University Stadium in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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