Cleaning the creek
Students and Sierra Club join community to restore Coyote Creek’s beauty

By Sonya Herrera
@Sonya_M_Herrera
San Jose State students working with a host of governmental and environmental organizations came together with community volunteers to clean up Coyote Creek on Saturday, Sept. 20 during Coastal Cleanup Day. Sierra Club staff and volunteers, along with the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition, arranged a sign-up station and bins full of cleaning supplies before the cleanup began at 9 a.m.

San Jose State alumnus Kenneth Rosales works as the conservation programs manager at the Sierra Club’s Loma Prieta chapter. He said volunteering in events like Coastal Cleanup Day helped him secure his paid position with the environmental organization.

“I was offered a job by the Sierra Club Loma Prieta chapter about five or six months after graduating, and it’s because I got connected through internships and volunteer activities,” Rosales said.

Michael Fallon, director of San Jose State’s Center for Community Learning and Leadership, said he was inspired by sociology professor Scott Myers-Lipton’s mobilization of students to raise minimum wage.

“So I have made Restore Coyote Creek the leading community engagement project for our campus for this year and next year, so we can restore it to the beautiful creek that it should be,” Fallon said.

Deb Kramer is the project manager of Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition’s Restore Coyote Creek project and did much of the marketing work for Saturday’s cleanup at Coyote Creek.

“I targeted libraries in the South San Jose area. I also leafleted the SJSU campus here,” Kramer said. “I used our email list of almost 200 people, I sent messages. I also posted on Facebook multiple times and used a lot of word of mouth.”

Redefining gender
Exploring modern identities

By Samson So @SamsonSo426
The MOSAIC Cross Cultural Center hosted a “Gender Reconstruction” workshop last Thursday.

Led by Zain Ahmed, a diversity advocate intern at the center, the event held an in-depth discussion of the definition of gender identity and specification.

Ahmed’s discussion was centered around the idea that transgender isn’t merely biological and a restricted sexual orientation, but really about how some people identify and express themselves.

“The main purpose of the discussion is simply to educate people and why it is so often traditionally associated,” Ahmed said. “We want to look at what gender is and how it is ingrained in society.”

Ahmed’s presentation was highlighted with multiple, smaller group discussions with their own separate goal. Some centered around talking about growing up in a culture that depicts how and what exactly a male and a female should be. "A lot of the culture of masculinity is distracting to men, women and transgenders,” Ahmed said.

Examples of childhood toys and beauty products were used to show the social norms of male and female tendencies.

Further into the discussion, Ahmed educated the audience on transgender issues and how to use respective talking methods.

“The topic is vital because so often we presume gender identity and we don’t think about how we treat each other with our words or how people identify themselves,” Ahmed said.

Kimberly Hill (right), senior health science major, Erika Hishiro (center), sophomore psychology major, and Jennifer Pham (left), undeclared freshman, picking up trash along Coyote Creek with community volunteers on Saturday, Sept. 20 for Coastal Cleanup Day.

By Samson So | Spartan Daily
Zain Ahmed, a diversity advocate intern, talks about the issue of gender identity during his discussion “Gender Reconstruction” at the MOSAIC Cultural Center on Thursday, Sept. 18.
18th annual Bark in the Park gives dogs a howling good time

Dog enthusiasts bring awareness about connection between dog care, attitude

By Wesley Moreo | citynews

Pet owners and their best friends came together at Naglee Park on Sat., Sept. 20 for the 18th annual San Jose Bark in the Park.

Lynda Chase, one of the organizers of the event who left the city, encouraged to see so many people coming to the event.

"Last year we got rained out," Chase said, "it poured all day during the event.'"

So the, the heat of the day, one notable change from past years was the lack of dog poop. In the past, portable poop bag stations were available, but this year the poop bags were removed from the event.

Chase said instead of using the poop bags residents were running with rags and disposable towels as a method of training the dogs to be more responsible dog owners.

"It's the first time in our history that we're starting to see this happen," said Chase.

"They haven't really seen like any definitive result of this event...helping to clear out the homeless that are encamped in the area," said Kramer.

Ray and the Skyy Dogs perform the Agility Ring to watch Rockin' Ray and the Skyy Dogs perform acts of agility and athleticism.

"Man's best friend" attempts to catch a frisbee at Bark in the Park at Naglee Park on Sat., Sept. 20.

Ray emphasized that with how people care for dogs, any dog can become someone's best friend.

"Remember a happy dog is a healthy dog," Ray said.

"We thought it would be a great opportunity to help our community," Chase said.

"It was a lot of fun," said Chase.

"The 18th annual Bark in the Park gives dogs a howling good time. Dog enthusiasts bring awareness about connection between dog care, attitude"

From Page 1

"Ranger Wes Steen has been great. He helped to clear out the homeless last week and then he walked the creek this week with Richard McMurtry.

McMurtry is the Santa Clara Creek Coalition's project coordinator. According to McMurtry, the Coalition's mission is to "transform our creeks into living streams, meaning full of the fish and birds and plants that need to be here this weekend."

"Though Coyote Creek stretches 14 miles, Saturday’s clean up effort focused on the narrow segment between Tully Road and Yerba Buena Road.

"We are doing this year in order to help clean up the creek, and trash-free, which means cleaning the creek before it’s been accumulating for years," Gezer said. "It is important to clean up the creek before their trash gets picked up every week.

Andrew P Hill High School studentsJunior Gezer and Huentan Benneuerto also spent time at Coyote Creek on Coastal Cleanup Day.

According to Gezer, he and Benneuerto "gave the dogs, some identify as male in their family, some identifies."

"Growing up with a Muslim background, I lived in a hyper-masculine environment that was imposed on me," said Ahmed.

"So some participants of the discussion expressing how labeled to a specific gender identity was difficult because feelings change."

Ahmed added where he was more aware of the numerous complex gender identities can often raise more questions about one's self.

"Some of our members have a gender reassignment story."

Ahmed recollected where he was deeply impacted by gender re-assignment.

"I liked this that was a safe space to open up about these backgrounds."

"We were seeking to keep gender roles defined in physical and mental guide lines, and because we are necessary evidence to prove someone as male or female."

"I feel uncomfortable sometimes in the engineering and get the feeling that people don’t trust me because I am a girl," she said.

"I think that was a safe place to open up about these backgrounds."

"I think there would be a great opportunity for everyone to help our community," Chase said.

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Ahmed chose to show the video as a way to present the issue between gender identity and societal questioning of one’s identity.

"The person asking the questions always seemed-power," said Alcinka. Ahmed added "transgendered a ‘gender bread’ most that showed several combinations based on how some identities.

"Using gender identity as an example, one can interpret as male in their mind, but also identity with another gender, based on how some identities.

"There are a lot of assumptions of what women are expected to do and it really dictates how we look at ourselves," Ahmed said.

Coyote Creek: Park ranchers ‘clear out’ homeless before cleanup

Josephine Porter is a San Jose State grad-

uate student and member of a campus fraterni-ty. She signed up for the cleanup through the fraternity's service website, but had also heard about it during one of San Jose State's organization fairs.

"I am a Phi Omega, is a national co-ed service fraternity, so we do service all the time," Porter said."I have not heard about it at the organization fair...I was also volunteering there, and then one of the ladies at the table was telling us about it.

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"People said aside from the heat and the mushroom oak, the cleanup was not very difficult.

"I haven’t really been around poison oak, so I just wanted to be around somebody," Porter said.

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"It has been a really good event," said Chase. "We thought it would be a great opportunity to help our community," Chase said.

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Santa to make public appearance at 24th annual Holiday Toy Drive
UPD invites community to participate

By Vincent Vicini

The delivery route begins on the south side of campus from Fifth Street through Eleventh Street and we will go to the neighborhoods with Santa, who delivers the gift with the assistance of the campus community as well as UPD officers.

Sgt. Jenny Gaxiola
University Police Department

There is a photo booth where a photo booth will be set up for children to take pictures with another Santa, Laws said. The ability to sit and be Santa for children every year, which I've done for several years in a row, now, is unmatched," Laws said.

The toy drive brings together students, businesses and police officers who work through the holiday season with many families living near the university," Laws said. "They are able to sit and be Santa for children every year, which I've done for several years in a row, now, is unmatched," Laws said.

According to UPD Sgt. John Laws, the toy drive's first meeting is this Thursday, Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. in the UPD conference room.

The program is extended to students, faculty and staff members who may also be experiencing financial difficulty and are unable to provide toys for their children during the holiday season.

The University Police Department's daily crime log.

The following events were taken from the University Police Department's daily crime log.

1. 10:10 p.m.
A bicycle was flagged down regarding a stolen bicycle at Duncan Hall. The subject reported his bicycle was stolen while locked to the bicycle rack. A report was taken.

2. 10:24 p.m.
An officer was dispatched to the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity on report of a noise complaint from neighbors. The officer contacted the fraternity officers and arranged for the noise to cease. A report was filed.

3. 11:43 p.m.
A library security officer discovered graffiti vandalism at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. There were no witnesses and no suspects have been identified. A report was taken.

The following events were taken from the University Police Department's daily crime log.

1. 1:55 a.m.
A suspect vehicle was flagged down regarding a stolen laptop. No suspect information was available at the time. A report was taken.

2. 1:56 p.m.
An officer was dispatched to request medical aid at Bacciochi Business Complex. The subject was transported to a local hospital by paramedics for treatment.

3. 1:47 p.m.
An officer was dispatched to request medical aid at Bacciochi Business Complex. The subject was transported to a local hospital by paramedics for treatment.

4. 2:04 p.m.
An officer was dispatched to the Engineering Building to take a report of a stolen laptop. No suspect information was available at the time. A report was taken.

The 24th annual Holiday Toy Drive organized by the University Police Department is entering its preparatory phase, which will serve over 200 families this holiday season, according to UPD Sgt. Jenny Gaxiola.

The non-profit organization provides toys for children, ages birth to 14 years old in the 95112 Zip code and surrounding San Jose State University, Gaxiola said.

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The University Police Department, San Jose Fire Department and EMS personnel were dispatched to provide medical assistance to a subject at Spartan Stadium. The subject declined to be transported to the local hospital. A report was taken.

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Art lovers unwind with San Jose Museum of Art’s Booze and Brushes event

By Lauren Hernandez
@LaurenPorFavor

The San Jose Museum of Art hosted its third Booze and Brushes event this year as part of its Art Hill program on last Thursday. Thirty-two attendees made their way into the museum's studio with cold beers or wine glasses in one hand and a brush in the other. Refreshments and an instructor for the event Denise Libert said Booze and Brushes is part of a series of hands-on classes available to adults curious about creating art, including painting, typography, kinetic sculptures and portrait drawing.

“Booze and Brushes is one series that we started to appeal to this year because people really enjoy it and wanted to do it again,” Libert said. Unlike art classes, attendees had free reign over what was painted on their eight-inch canvas boards, according to Libert. Attendees were first given sketching, tone and color plans to explore various painting ideas. Some searched for inspiration on their mobile devices while others looked to a stabledisplaying various paintings.

“Remember that sketch isn’t supposed to look good,” Libert said to guests as the sketching portion came to a close.

An image transfer demonstration taught attendees how to transfer a photo onto the canvas by gluing charcoal down over the sketch and pressing it onto the camera for a few seconds.

Libert launched into a painting demonstration that provided tips on how to utilize different brushes and tools to get a finished sketch on canvas. Libert suggested the background color first, painting big chunks of color and then adding details. She provided a helpful tip to never leave the paint off the brushes as it causes them to harden.

Scattered around the walls are several quilt pieces and textile art, each with its own unique design story. One such art piece is “Koi Pond” by Rob Goodale and Anna Greschner, which provides an interactive experience with visitors.

The design consists of “pods” that light up the walls like red and orange lanterns, which still remain as they constantly fluttering around as if they were in real water, but fish darting around.

The tools are controlled by a Microsoft Kinect system and monitors human movement and reactions to viewers who are up close.

“The exhibits are set up by a volunteer installation group who have access to teams of interns who are shown to the emerging exhibits,” said executive director Christine Jeffers.

“Exhibits stay up for three or four months and we do provide four hour-long tours for each exhibit. Several of the museum’s employees are volunteers that devote time in order to keep the museum running.”

Susan Hurd, a new volunteer from Cupertino, shared a story of one of her favorite things about volunteering for the museum and some interesting opportunities.

“Feel that people with skills will only appreciate them if they learn to actually make something themselves” said Libert.

“If everyone has a different idea of what they want to do,” said Libert.

“Some of the classes we have included is the ‘Mixing It Up’ quilting program that features two people painting to make mixed media collages. Jeffers added that these art classes are open to the public who want to learn more about art.

Jefllies said that the museum is trying to increase participation with several classes on Adobe Photoshop, sewing, knitting, weaving, textiles and jewelry classes. Jean Phillips, the director of operations and reservations who will be spearheading the program of “Communal Watercolor Quilts” from distance shows landscapes as an artistic style. However, a look up close will show a saturation of smaller images including Mickey Mouse, Betty Boop and even dragons that make up the image much more bright.

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The event will also have live music since the museum is partnered with Guitar Society. The event will feature Tom Milwaukee and his band “Milwaukee & Male” whose Saber will be bra-
City Lights Theater Company’s ‘Art’ explores value of art

By Kristen Wirtz

City Lights Theater Company’s ‘Art’ explores value of art

More information is at thisisfatale.com

By Wesley Moots

S AN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, September 10th
5pm to 7:30pm

Free Food, Games and a Chance to Win a $50 HD Flat Screen TV

Learn valuable financial life skills we all need our daily lives!

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The St. Louis Police Department is hosting workshops that aim to improve relations with the media. These workshops focus on training officers to interact with the media in a professional manner, to protect the department's reputation, and to ensure that the public is properly informed. The workshops will cover topics such as how to handle media inquiries, how to prepare statements, and how to handle press events.

The workshops are designed for officers at all levels of the department, from patrol officers to senior officials. The department hopes that these workshops will improve the relationship between the police and the media, and will help officers to more effectively communicate with the public.

The workshops will be led by experienced journalists and media trainers, who will provide officers with practical advice and guidance. Officers will have the opportunity to practice their communication skills in a safe and supportive environment.

The St. Louis Police Department is committed to building trust with the community and to ensuring that the public is properly informed. These workshops are an important step in achieving these goals.
It is not all black and white when it comes to my race

In fifth grade, my class learned about colors and how mixing certain colors together make different colors. “What does black and white make?” our teacher asked. I trained my hand and told her, “Brown.”

Obviously I was wrong and she told me the colors actually make gray. I was so confused because I could not see a difference. I told her I was black and white my whole life and wondered how black and white gray if my skin is a golden brown color.

There always identified as mixed race, but prefer referring to myself as black or African-American, despite being racially half white.

I am not an admiring or trying to erase that part of my racial identity. The reason I prefer identifying as black is because that has been my experience for the past 25 years. "Really black" they say it as if you are supposed to be proud that I am black by society.

And despite my half white racial identity, the black community has always welcomed accepted me.

I never truly been accepted as a part of the white community.

Both of my parents died before I was an adult. I have never had a chance to make a connection to my white or black side.

People of this race, I have always had to prove my credibility as a black person.

If I had done for every time I was "half black & white" or "white/black," I could pay off all my debt and open up that nonprofit organization I always dreamed about.

When someone tells you that you are not really black, they’re as if you ask me to take it as a compliment.

As if I am supposed to be proud that I am exactly the “acceptable black person.”

I am not the default race and I am no threat to anyone else in the black community because I am half white.

People are incensed into believing that an educated black person is anything but normal.

Comment on these articles at www.spartandaily.com

The trials of being mixed race in American society

My mixed race identity has been a cause of frustration of my entire life.

At first glance, one may say my fair skin and brown eyes make me Mexican. Even at low State, a university that boasts it’s diversity, I am not an accepted person who challenges the validity of my identity.

I crossed the threshold of Nord’s door and delivered Daycare. For the next year and a half, that quietly unfolded.

I approached the sign-in desk in the lobby and told my name to the resident adviser and turned the table.

When he heard me say my last name Hernández, he shot me a look of confusion.

I replied with a simple “yes” and prepared myself for the questions I have been accustomed to during my life.

“I thought you were white,” he said to me, as if I was exchanged by my face from down to the clipboard and my name.

”Don’t worry, I am not white,” I told him, as I handed over my mouth-name.

As the sign-in process continued, I wore a completely accepted mission.

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People of this race, I have always had to prove my credibility as a black person.

If I had done for every time I was "half black & white" or "white/black," I could pay off all my debt and open up that nonprofit organization I always dreamed about.

When someone tells you that you are not really black, they’re as if you ask me to take it as a compliment.

As if I am supposed to be proud that I am exactly the “acceptable black person.”

I am not the default race and I am no threat to anyone else in the black community because I am half white.

People are incensed into believing that an educated black person is anything but normal.
Sharks training camp opens with packed crowds, younger players

By Jonathan Wold

Sharks fans at San Jose were buzzing with excitement from hockey-starved Sharks fans looking to turn the page on last season's bitter playoff collapse to the Los Angeles Kings. The San Jose Sharks began training camp for the 2014-15 season and held scrimmages Sept. 20-21 in front of two packed crowds on the south rink.

“I liked the pace of the game. I thought it was crisp,” said Sharks head coach Todd McLellan. “I thought that players came to compete for positions.”

There is an emphasis on competition this year. Roles will need to be re-evaluated this season — both on and off the ice.

Center Joe Thornton was stripped of his position as captain after a summer full of speculation that the Sharks were trying to trade him and rebuild around younger players.

“I feel confident I could get 30 goals playing forward, but my bread and butter is the game on the blue line,” said Burns.

“By the time we’re done with exhibition season, he’ll be an open roster spot this time,” McLellan said.

“I hope he can,” McLellan said. “He knows he’s in a dogfight with a number of other wingers in that situation.”

While McGinn may be the front-runner for Torres’ role, Freddie Hamilton, Daniil Tarasov and Chris Tierney have also impressed.

San Jose Sharks players head off the ice and into the locker room after a scrimmage at Sharks Ice at San Jose on Sunday.

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