



Thank you all for joining me at the Annual Sign Hill Tree Lighting Ceremony last Thursday evening. It was such a joy to see so many smiling faces! What a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season. May the light of the Sign Hill tree remind us all of the warmth of love that the season brings.



As I reflect on my tenure as mayor this year, I am humbled and grateful to all of you for making this community what it is. From watching residents and staff help one another fill sandbags before a storm, to watching women empower one another at the Women's Leadership Conference, the numerous ribbon cuttings for local businesses, the "fiesta atmosphere" at Orange Memorial Park while our children play sports, to watching children of all ages enjoy the new playground at the Library | Parks and Recreation Center (LPR). Please join me in celebrating this year at the City Council Reorganization Ceremony on Tuesday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m. as we welcome a new mayor and vice

mayor.

Ho, ho, ho! I hope to see you again tomorrow, Saturday, December 2nd, at Santa Comes to Town! Snap a photo with Santa from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the LPR! Santa and his elves will be onsite to visit with children of all ages. Given the new location, the Free South City Shuttle will be running from City Hall to LPR from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in 15-minute increments.

After your visit with Santa, do a little holiday shopping at the Elves' Winter Market hosted by Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center. The market will be open on Saturday, December 2nd from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Economic Advancement Center (366 Grand Avenue). This fun market features local food, crafts, and fashion vendors with live music! Visit [www.rencenter.org](http://www.rencenter.org) to learn more.

The City's Fire and Police Departments are still accepting toy and monetary donations for the 2023 Holiday Toy Drive happening now through December 11. Please drop off your donations at Fire Station 61 (480 N. Canal Street) or the Police Department (1 Chestnut Avenue). For more information, please call (650) 877-8931.

Don't forget to drop your letters off to Santa at his special mailbox on the front steps of City Hall! Santa's elves will be collecting letters to Santa through December 15th. To ensure Santa has time to respond to each letter, please submit your letters by December 15th.

As always, if you know of a friend or neighbor who does not receive these important City updates, please forward this email to them, and they can [sign up here](#).

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your mayor in 2023. Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a bright 2024!

Your Mayor,  
Flor Nicolas

## LOCAL NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

### Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center | Winter Market

Shop local, eat local this holiday season! Saturday, December 2, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Economic Advancement Center (366 Grand Avenue). Featuring local food, craft, and fashion vendors. Live music from the GX Band. For more information visit [Elves' Winter Market - Renaissance Center \(rencenter.org\)](http://Elves' Winter Market - Renaissance Center (rencenter.org)).

### South San Francisco Winter Marketplace

Check out this local market selling home décor, plants, candles, jewelry, eco-friendly products, hair products, desserts, and more! Sponsored by Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center in partnership with BioMed Realty, Biocom California, and the City of South San Francisco on Thursday, December 7, 2023 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at the Gateway of the Pacific (1000 Gateway Blvd, near Traverse Restaurant). For more information visit [South San Francisco Winter Marketplace - Renaissance Center \(rencenter.org\)](http://South San Francisco Winter Marketplace - Renaissance Center (rencenter.org)).

### **Caltrain Holiday Train**

Caltrain's Holiday Train returns bringing good tidings and cheer to families from San Francisco to the South Bay as a part of its annual toy drive. The train runs on December 2nd and December 3rd from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Check out the Masterworks Chorale will be performing on the train this year. Visit [www.caltrain.com/news/holiday-train-making-stops-along-peninsula-december-2-3](http://www.caltrain.com/news/holiday-train-making-stops-along-peninsula-december-2-3) for more information.

### **City of South San Francisco City Council Reorganization**

Please join the City of South San Francisco for the City Council Reorganization as we welcome a new Mayor and Vice Mayor for 2024. The reorganization will be held on December 5, 2023 at the City Council Chambers (901 Civic Campus Way) at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call (650) 877-8502.

### **South San Francisco Farmers' Market**

The South San Francisco Farmers' Market will be open this Saturday at Orange Memorial Park parking lot behind the Joseph A. Fernekes Building at 781 Tennis Drive! Come to the Farmers' Market this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for fresh, delicious fruits and vegetables straight from the source! Additional features include a food truck, fresh hummus, fresh baked goods, candles, plants, crafts, and much more!

## **PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS**

### **Santa Comes to Town! New Location!**

Join the Parks and Recreation Department as Santa Comes to Town on Saturday, December 2, 2023, at the new Library | Parks & Recreation Center at 901 Civic Campus Way from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come and meet and greet Santa as well as participate in STEM activities organized by the Parks and Recreation Department. This fun and festive event is free to the public.

### **Holiday Wreath Making**

The Parks and Recreation Department and Improving Public Places Committee is hosting its annual wreath making program. Take home wreath kits are still available. Host your own wreath-making holiday party at home with family and friends by purchasing a kit for each person! Those who purchase a kit will come to the Fernekes Building outdoor patio and fill a bag with the greens of their choice. The kit will include one large bag of greens, one wreath ring, one paddle of wire, and one pre-made bow. To register, visit [www.ssf.net/rec-catalog](http://www.ssf.net/rec-catalog) and click on the Special Events tab. For questions, call (650) 829-3800.

*\*The in-person Wreath Making Workshop is full and closed for registration.*

### **South San Francisco Civic Ballet | The Nutcracker**

Join the South San Francisco Parks and Recreation Department for a captivating performance of "The Nutcracker," by the South San Francisco Civic Ballet. There are three enchanting performances taking place on Saturday, December 16 at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 17 at 1:00 p.m. at the South San Francisco High School Theater. Tickets can be purchased beginning on Monday, November 27 at the Recreation Office, located on the 3rd floor of the new Library | Parks and Recreation Center at 901 Civic Campus Way. Adult admission: \$10.00 (18Y & Up), Youth admission: \$8.00 (3Y-17Y) and Senior admission: \$8.00 (62Y and up). For more

information, contact the Recreation Office at (650) 829-3800 or email [web-rec@ssf.net](mailto:web-rec@ssf.net).

### Winter Camp

The Parks and Recreation Department's Youth Enrichment Services (YES) has a fun-filled program planned for winter break! Our Winter Wonderland theme will include art, science, sports, and kid's cafe activities. We have included theme dress days to add to the fun! Winter Camp is open to children who are in TK through age 12. Dates: December 26, 27, 28 and January 3, 4, 5 Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Location: Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center, 1121 S. San Francisco Drive, South San Francisco Cost: Resident \$39.00 per day/ Non-resident \$44.00 per day Applications are available at [www.ssf.net/childcare](http://www.ssf.net/childcare). For more information, call (650) 875-6900 or email Kimberly Morrison at [kimberly.morrison@ssf.net](mailto:kimberly.morrison@ssf.net).

### Private Rentals at the new Library | Parks and Recreation Center

The new Library | Parks and Recreation Center will have a Banquet Hall and a Social Hall available to rent for private events. If you are interested in renting this facility, please [click here](#) and submit your interest form. By submitting this form your name will be placed on an interest list, this does not guarantee your event date. Please [click here](#) for rental fees for this facility. For questions, please contact the Recreation Administrative Office at (650) 829-3800. Photos and room diagrams coming soon.

### Sign Hill Stewards

You are encouraged to sign-up to help restore habitat and protect nature with the Parks and Recreation Department in South San Francisco. Join Natural Resource Specialist, Candace LaCroix, every other Friday and the last Saturday of the month on Sign Hill. Registration is required. Registration information can be found here: [www.eventbrite.com/e/sign-hill-stewards-habitat-restoration-tickets-304822130197](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/sign-hill-stewards-habitat-restoration-tickets-304822130197). For questions email: [candace.lacroix@ssf.net](mailto:candace.lacroix@ssf.net).

### Classes and Aquatics Registration | Save the Date

Parks and Recreation's Winter 2024 Activity Guide is Coming Soon! Mark your calendars to register for the Winter 2024 session of recreation activities. We have a variety of classes in arts and special interest, exercise, language classes, and much more. Please take this time update and/or create your CivicRec account to be ready for your registration date at [www.ssf.net/rec-catalog](http://www.ssf.net/rec-catalog). Recreation Classes (Not including Aquatics Programs)

- Monday, December 4, 2023: Resident registration opens online at 6:00 a.m. In-person registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Recreation Office – 901 Civic Campus Way, 3rd floor, South San Francisco.
- Monday, December 18, 2023: Non-resident registration opens online at 6:00 a.m. In-person registration will be offered from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Recreation Office - 901 Civic Campus Way, 3rd floor.
- Monday, January 8, 2024: Classes begin. For more information, visit the Classes webpage at [www.ssf.net/classes](http://www.ssf.net/classes) or call (650) 829-3800. Aquatics Programs All registrations open at 6:00 a.m. online. Session #1 (All classes, including weekend classes)
- Resident Registration – Monday, December 18, 2023
- Non-Resident Registration – Wednesday, December 20, 2023. Session #2 (Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday evening classes only)

- Resident Registration – Wednesday, February 7, 2024
- Non-Resident Registration – Friday, February 9, 2024

For more information, visit [www.ssf.net/aquatics](http://www.ssf.net/aquatics) or call (650) 875-6973.

For in-person assistance, visit Orange Pool at 1 West Orange Avenue, South San Francisco.

### **December Parks and Recreation Holiday Closure Schedule**

The Parks and Recreation Department's community centers will be closed to the public during the Holiday season.

The Recreation Administration Office will be open on Friday, December 22, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. They will be closed from December 23rd to January 1, 2024, and then reopen on Tuesday January 2nd.

Community Center Closures Friday December 22nd – Monday, January 1, 2024:

- Recreation programs at the Library | Parks & Recreation Center
- Alice Peña Bulos Community Center
- Joseph A. Fernekes Recreation Building
- Roberta Cerri Teglia Center
- Terrabay Gymnasium and Recreation Center

Orange Pool closed Monday, December 18 – Monday, January 1.

Youth Enrichment Services and Early Learning Preschool Programs:

- Siebecker, Westborough, Little Steps Preschool Programs closed Friday December 22 – Monday, January 5
- After School and REAL Programs at Buri Buri, Monte Verde, Spruce, Martin and Los Cerritos closed Thursday, December 21 – Friday, January 5

## **LIBRARY EVENTS**

### **The 30th Anniversary of the Annual Trivia Challenge is here!**

On Friday, December 8th, Project Read will celebrate 30 years of its annual Trivia Challenge at the South San Francisco Conference Center, starting at 5:30 p.m. There's still time to join this fun event where guests enjoy a delicious buffet meal, bid on great silent auction items, and cheer on their favorite team! Come one, come all to this fundraising event which helps bring literacy resources to South San Francisco and other surrounding communities in North San Mateo County. Tickets are now \$65 each or \$75 starting December 4th and at the door. For more information, please call 650.829.3871 or email [triviainfo@ssf.net](mailto:triviainfo@ssf.net).

**Santa Comes to Town: STEM Activities | Main Library, Discovery Center, 2nd Floor (901 Civic Campus Way) | Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 a.m.**  
Visit the Discovery Center and participate in STEM activities.

**Happy Baby Signs Storytime | Main Library, Youth Library, 2nd Floor (901 Civic Campus Way) | Wednesday, December 6, 10:30 a.m.**  
Join us for the last Happy Baby Signs storytime series with Teacher Bill.

Teacher Bill incorporates ASL (American Sign Language) into his storytime series for children 0-6 years old and their parents and caregivers. Children will have fun laughing, signing and singing. Our regularly scheduled Bouncing Babies Storytime will resume on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. starting December 13.

**LEGO Club | Main Library, Discovery Center, 2nd Floor (901 Civic Campus Way) | Every Tuesday in December at 3:30 p.m.**

Join us in the Makerspace for Lego Club! There will be different prompts each week to follow or do your own. Participate for a chance to have your creation displayed in the Discovery Center glass case.

SSF PARKS & RECREATION

# SANTA COMES TO TOWN

*New Location* **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023** *Free Admission*  
**10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**  
**LIBRARY | PARK & RECREATION CENTER**  
**901 CIVIC CAMPUS WAY, SSF**

**10:00 A.M. - SANTA ARRIVES BY FIRE TRUCK**  
**MEET AND GREET WITH SANTA | S.T.E.M. ACTIVITIES**

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT [WWW.SSF.NET/REC](http://WWW.SSF.NET/REC)  
OR CALL (650) 829-3800

PRESENTED BY: 

WITH SUPPORT FROM: 

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**RIDE THE FREE SOUTH CITY SHUTTLE TO THE EVENT!**

 **9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.**  
(SHUTTLE WILL PICK UP AND DROP OFF PASSENGERS IN 15 MINUTE INCREMENTS)  
**PICK UP / DROP OFF: CITY HALL PARKING LOT**  
(MILLER AVENUE AND WALNUT AVENUE)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:  
(650) 877-8502 OR [CITYINFO@SSF.NET](mailto:CITYINFO@SSF.NET)

PARQUES Y RECREACION SSF

# PAPA NOEL LLEGA A LA CIUDAD

*Nueva Ubicacio*

**SABADO 2 DE DICIEMBRE 2023**  
**10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**  
**BIBLIOTECA | PARQUE Y CENTRO DE**

*Entrada Gratis!*

**RECREACION**  
**901 CIVIC CAMPUS WAY, SSF**  
**10:00 A.M. - PAPA NOEL LLEGA EN CAMION DE BOMBEROS**

**CONOCER Y SALUDAR A PAPA NOEL | ACTIVIDADES S.T.E.M.**

PARA MAS INFORMACION POR FAVOR  
VISITE: [WWW.SSF.NET/REC](http://WWW.SSF.NET/REC)  
O LLAME (650) 829-3800

PRESENTADO  
POR:



CON EL  
APOYO  
DE:



## VIAJA EN EL SERVICIO DE TRASLADO GRATUITO DE SOUTH CITY AL EVENTO!

**9:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.**

(EL SERVICIO DE TRANSPORTE RECOGERA Y DEJARA A LOS PASAJEROS EN INCREMENTOS DE 15 MINUTOS)



**PICK UP / DROP OFF: CITY HALL PARKING LOT**  
**(MILLER AVENUE AND WALNUT AVENUE)**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:  
(650) 877-8502 OR [CITYINFO@SSF.NET](mailto:CITYINFO@SSF.NET)





# Elves' Winter Market



*Shop local, eat local this Holiday Season!*

**Saturday, December 2, 2023**  
**11:00 am - 2:30 pm**  
**Economic Advancement Center**  
366 Grand Ave, SSF, CA

*Featuring*

Local food, craft, and fashion vendors!



[brc@rencenter.org](mailto:brc@rencenter.org)

[rencenter.org](http://rencenter.org)

(650) 829-4652

City of South San Francisco

# 2023 HOLIDAY DRIVE

Accepting toy donations for children 0 to 10 years and if you choose, a monetary donation for children 11 to 17.

**Please no stuffed animals and new toys only.**



Toys can be brought to  
Fire Station 61,  
480 N. Canal or the  
Police Department, 1 Chestnut  
South San Francisco  
Questions...contact  
Mary Ann Spediacci  
holidaydrive@ssf.net or  
650-877-8931

<https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/iaffl1507cf>

Please make donations by December 11, 2023.



**Volunteers needed November 20, December 18 & 19, 2023**

If interested, contact [Marie.Patea@ssf.net](mailto:Marie.Patea@ssf.net) or  
650-829-6666.



City of South San Francisco | 400 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080

[Unsubscribe marie.patea@ssf.net](mailto:marie.patea@ssf.net)

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