Dear friends of Happy Hollow Park & Zoo,

Sometimes it’s the small moments that reveal the big impact of a visit to Happy Hollow.

Listen to this — a little girl, maybe 7 years old, found herself eye-to-eye with a live hedgehog as part of an Animal Conservation lesson at summer camp. The zoo education instructor invited young participants to observe the animal up close while she explained the difference between hedgehogs and porcupines. The instructor noticed the girl’s expression grow serious, so she asked the child what was on her mind. The girl looked up and a smile spread across her face, and she said “I have wanted to know that my whole life, and now I do.”

That is the magic of Happy Hollow Park & Zoo.

We love touching the hearts of our guests, sparking questions and ideas and nurturing pure, joyous wonder about animals and conservation. When children learn from direct observation of live animals, the groundwork is laid for ongoing interest in life science and passion for preserving our precious planet and all its creatures.

When you make a donation to Happy Hollow Foundation, this is what you support! And this 2021 Annual Report is our salute to you — the donors, sponsors, partners and friends — who fuel our mission to connect people to nature through play.

I know I’m not alone in hoping for more normalcy in 2022, a year that will hopefully include the return of giddy children on field trips — and, of course, the young at heart at Senior Safari! And Happy Hollow Foundation will continue its steadfast work to ensure that this special place continues to thrive.

On behalf of the children, parents, grandparents, conservationists, animal lovers and countless longtime fans of Happy Hollow, thank you for your support. Come visit soon!

Amy Pizarro
Executive Director
Happy Hollow Foundation
apizarro@happyhollow.org
A big thank you to Happy Hollow's supporters who made all these dreams come true!

**Coop, Sweet Coop**
We installed a new one-of-a-kind chicken coop! Designed and built by donor and volunteer H.B. Mok, this spacious new coop allows zookeepers to enter without having to bend down, it has external access to nesting boxes and more space for our chickens. Thank you to Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez’s office and West Valley Construction Company for funding this project!

**Roller Coaster Renovation**
The Pacific Fruit Express roller coaster had a fun new makeover! Happy Hollow Foundation was thrilled to partner with San Jose Water on a project to transform this popular ride from bare-bones to bursting with colorful fruit, giant flowers, farm equipment and a water tower in a new Valley of Heart's Delight theme.

**Exhibit Expansion**
We've broken ground on a Peccary Exhibit improvement plan. Parrot Island was relocated to expand the peccary exhibit which will allow us to bring in Chacoan peccaries. The foundation is excited to support Happy Hollow Park & Zoo's role in the Species Survival Plan and protect yet another endangered species.

**Improved Introductions**
The Meet & Greet area is a special place for visitors to learn and engage with our education animals. Thanks to donors Debbie and Nathan Schultz we purchased equipment to provide a better, safer presentation experience for guests, staff and animals. There will be a raised platform stage, new PA system, landscaping that doubles as protective barriers and more!

**Pollinator Paradise**
The Backyard Habitat is now open for people and pollinators to enjoy! Happy Hollow's demonstration garden highlights the important role pollinators play for native plants and animals. It serves as a model to the community about how to create similar environments in their backyards, establishing wildlife corridors throughout the Bay Area.
When it comes to nature, small changes can ripple into big change. Nobody understands that better than Belinda Lowe-Schmahl, Executive Director of Schmahl Science Workshops, a non-profit that teaches kids of all backgrounds about science. She not only researches and interprets these effects with her students — she also gets her hands dirty sustainably rebuilding what was once lost.

In 2009 Belinda took over a garden in History Park, walking distance from Happy Hollow, that was filled with non-native plants and devoid of pollinators. The intention was to turn it into an outdoor science lab that would lure pollinators back. She worked with an Eagle Scout and built beds for test gardens — then they lost the funding to continue.

She needed support and had heard about Happy Hollow Foundation’s Progress for Pollinators program. This program awards $2,500 grants to community members who want to create pollinator-friendly habitats in Santa Clara County. It’s funded by Happy Hollow Park & Zoo’s Quarters for Conservation program, which devotes a portion of all ticket and membership revenue to the conservation of wildlife and their habitats.

She was thrilled when her grant was approved. “There are not a lot of garden grants for our community, let alone of this size” Belinda said. “We couldn’t have continued the program without it.”

The grant allowed Belinda and Schmahl COO Ellen Hilbrich to get to work. They were able to fill the beds with native plants purchased with the grant money, and soon they drew in eight native bee species! Unexpectedly, they also saw a rise in passive pollinators like lizards, which has the added benefit of naturally keeping the pest population down.

The garden has grown to become a refuge for pollinators and people. Belinda was allotted more land in History Park and created an urban garden in addition to her research garden where people can grow food and connect with nature. The neighborhood surrounding History Park is one of the poorest in the county and was hit particularly hard by the pandemic. Food security became a huge issue, so it was vital to have a way to get fresh food and have outdoor space to enjoy. “Families that use the gardens can support themselves and they can go there to de-stress,” Belinda said. She’s there often, talking with the families and teaching them about pollinators and sustainability.

It’s wonderful seeing Belinda’s influence continue to ripple. She’s shared the importance of native plants and pollinators with her students and urban garden participants, and now also with visitors to History Park. They take the lessons they learn back to their homes, spreading support for pollinators across our community. “You haven’t just funded plants and soil,” Belinda said. “You’ve supported a community of people, animals and plants.”
Did you know...

Time to learn some fun facts about Happy Hollow's animal ambassadors, who play a starring role in our education programs! **Thanks to our supporters, Happy Hollow Foundation provided funding for life science classes for over 3,000 kids from underserved schools in 2021.** These children got to learn about animal habitats, diets, defenses, adaptations and more — and they got to meet these critters in person or virtually.

- **Prehensile-tailed skinks** often live in a social group called a circulus.
- **Eastern box turtles** have a hinge in their shell so when they’re frightened they can pull in their head and legs and tightly close the shell.
- **Madagascar hissing cockroaches** produce their hissing sound by pushing air out through holes in their sides called spiracles.
- **Ball pythons** have special pits along their top jaw that perceive heat, forming thermal images of their surroundings.
- **Prehensile-tailed porcupines** are nocturnal and have long whiskers on their face and legs to help them to navigate in the dark.
- **Hedgehogs** can travel several miles in a single night searching for food.
- **Until the beginning of the 20th century, male and female Eclectus parrots** were thought to be two separate species due to the extreme coloration differences.
- **The barbary dove** has been domesticated for more than 2,000 years.
Kathy Rodriguez and her brother Tim Hernandez wanted to do something special to honor their parents, Manny and Cecile Hernandez. They brainstormed ideas about how to celebrate their parents’ support of family as well as the community.

“Our parents have always been so supportive of us, and extended family members as well — they always make sure that family is supported in any way they need without asking for anything in return,” Kathy said.

That’s when Happy Hollow Park & Zoo came to mind. “We wanted to honor them in more of a tangible way, and we thought of Happy Hollow and how they’ve loved taking the grandkids there and have donated in the past.”

Happy Hollow Foundation offers a program in which donors can make a $10,000 gift for a commemorative plaque on the Keep-Around Carousel. This ride features beautiful creatures, both fantasy and real endangered animals we should “keep around” for future generations. It was a perfect fit to honor Manny and Cecile, who have been longtime donors to the foundation.

Kathy chose to place the plaque next to the bald eagle because it represents strength, honor and wisdom.

“It just felt like an epic animal, and since our parents are so important to us and since they do so much for so many people, they needed to be represented by an animal as equally important,” Kathy said.

She also had a big idea about how to deliver the surprise: Bring the whole family to Happy Hollow for a photo shoot next to the carousel. Kathy worked with Happy Hollow Foundation Executive Director Amy Pizarro to make it happen.

“I just love working with donors to find the perfect fit for them and their families,” Amy said.

One sunny September morning, the entire family arrived — Emmanuel and Cecile; Kathy, her husband Justin and son, Bellamy; and brother Tim, his wife Arielle and kids Teo and Annalisse.

Photographer Lisa Schader scoped out the area in advance to figure out how to get the perfect shot, and when the family arrived she arranged them on the carousel near the bald eagle. When she gave the secret cue, Kathy pointed down to the plaque that read:

“Emmanuel & Cecilia Hernandez
With love, from your present
and future generations.”

The mood was joyous as the Hernandez parents realized what was going on.

“We were very surprised indeed, as Cecile and I thought we were just there for a photo shoot,” said Manny with a big smile. “So seeing the plaque on the carousel for the first time was truly an awesome surprise.”

After the big reveal, the family climbed aboard for carousel rides. Then they changed into comfortable clothes and spent the rest of the lovely fall day at Happy Hollow.

“It really was a feel-good day for our family,” said Kathy. “It is definitely one of my favorite memories at Happy Hollow because we were all together and got to celebrate our parents.”
Four-year-old Naomi is all smiles when she visits Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, a welcome respite for a child who has not had an easy road.

Naomi, who is part of Santa Clara County’s foster care system, is now able to visit Happy Hollow frequently — and for free! — thanks to a new partnership between Happy Hollow Foundation and Child Advocates of Silicon Valley. Child Advocates is an organization that connects foster children with Court Appointed Special Advocates (or CASAs), allowing the child to form a healthy bond with a trusted, responsible adult.

CASA is a program that has rules to promote healthy boundaries, including that volunteers are not permitted to bring the child to their home or integrate them into their social lives. Because of this, volunteers are always looking for fun destinations to spend their weekly time with their youths. Happy Hollow provides the perfect opportunity for a carefree outing, where the CASA and their child can explore nature, squeal with delight on the rides and soak up the great outdoors.

Thanks to generous donors, in spring 2021 Happy Hollow Foundation was able to provide yearlong memberships to 68 CASAs and their children, including Naomi and her advocate Patricia.

Patricia said that because Naomi has not had much stability in her life, she has difficulty making friends and sometimes runs away when she’s overwhelmed. But Patricia always feels safe bringing Naomi to Happy Hollow since the park is enclosed and the staff are so helpful and friendly. “The employees are especially kind to her,” she said. The playground areas also give Naomi a chance to meet and play alongside children in a low-pressure environment.

When they come through the gates, Naomi always wants to go directly to the rides. Patricia said “she is quite the daredevil” and talked about how she loves to ride the Pacific Fruit Express rollercoaster and climb to the top of the Redwood Lookout. Naomi tends to feel more comfortable around adults, so she likes to wave and call out to staff members. They make Naomi feel like part of the Happy Hollow family.

As a former kindergarten teacher, Patricia is always looking for ways to incorporate educational opportunities into their outings and she says Happy Hollow makes that easy with its interpretive signage about animal habitats, conservation efforts and more.

Best of all, the memberships allow the duo to come often and for shorter periods of time. Happy Hollow gives Naomi a reliable setting for lighthearted fun in her otherwise chaotic life.

“It’s been such a special place for us,” Patricia said, and she wants to give “a huge thank you” to everyone who made their trips possible. Happy Hollow Foundation is grateful for the donors who helped bring joy to children in our community who need it most.

If you’d like to support this effort with a donation, please email Executive Director Amy Pizarro at apizarro@happyhollow.org.
In grateful recognition of people and organizations that support Happy Hollow Foundation.

**INDIVIDUALS**

**$10,000 or more**
- Ron Cali
- Lori and John Manfroy
- Katherine Rodriguez
- Debbie and Nathan Schultz
- Estate of Richard Tiede
- Shannon Wass and Dan Kelmenson

**$5,000 to $9,999**
- Anonymous
- Leanne Bernhardt and John Bernstein
- Donna and Jeff Boss
- Rouviere and Ben de Waal
- Judy and Warren Kaplan
- Lissa Kreisler
- Charlene McCaskey
- Marianne and Carl Salas
- Alison Steel and Gordon Knowles
- Tamara Swenson Current and Jeff Current
- Christine and Bob Young

**$2,500 to $4,999**
- Tracy and Gregg Baeckler
- Michael Borkenhagen
- Gretchen and F. Matthew DiNapoli
- Michael Fisher
- Deborah Goldeen and Erik Gutfeldt
- Alicia Gutierrez and Philip Martin
- Lea and Reid Lind
- Charlie McCullum
- Melinda and Philip Nemec
- Karen Strobach
- Rhonda and Jimm Vosburgh
- Kirk Walukiewicz
- Amy and Ben Winkleblack

**$1,000 to $2,499**
- Anonymous
- Shannon and Nicholas Adams
- Laura and Jason Bennett
- Lisa and Mike Beyersdoerfer
- Vikki Bowes-Mok and H.B. Mok
- Rebecca and Matt Bright
- Kathryn and Sean Byington
- Debbie Bylina
- Esther and Sian-Tek Chen
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- Anastasia Kolendo and Jeremy Stober
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- Bill Tuttle and Jenny Ren
- Ronda and Tony Vierra
- Melody Walsh
- Erik Walukiewicz
- Shannon and Daniel Winter

**$250 to $999**
- Gina and Brian Adams
- Catherine and Edward Aftandillian
- Richard Ajluni
- Alyssa and Bryan Archell
- Lily Ang and Francisco Imai
- Lorna and Merle Beghtel
- Dominik Behr
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- Angela and Dave Delgado
- Stephanie and Thomas Fernane
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- Brigitte Frenay and Craig Ekiss
- Lynn Freret
- Michael Galloway
- Teresa and Hector Gamboa
- Marjorie and Peter Gaudio
- Marilyn and Barry Goldsmith
FINANCIAL SUMMARY
Information reflects the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Income

- **Individuals** $291,008
- **Grants** $158,580
- **Events** $118,016
- **Corporations** $42,842
- **In-kind** $25,755

TOTAL: **$636,201**

Expenses

- **Program** $204,795
- **Fundraising** $51,712
- **Management and Administrative** $48,684
- **Conservation** $23,988
- **Exhibits and Rides** $21,196

TOTAL: **$350,375**

Leslee and Carl Guardino
Molly Haley
Heather Hoffman
Suzanne Jensen
Mary and Grady Jeter
Elizabeth and Russell Johnson
Barbara and Austin Kilburn
Jeff Kusnitz
Watson Lee
Jim Lepetich
Evgenia Magnusson
Erin Mansfield
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Kirk Nichols
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Julia Howlett
Leslie Hutchings
Sigrid Illes
Kym Imai
Miriam Intrator
Jessica Intrator
James Jones

Up to $249
Banit Agrawal
Jane Alvarado
Adonna Amoroso

HAPPY HOLLOW FOUNDATION • 8
Individuals, continued

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Josephine Kato
Mary Kayser
Marilyn Keelan
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Stephanie Knudtson
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Wing Shan Ribi Leung
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Barbara Williams and John Comiskey
Tiffany Wurr
Dan Wyman
Jun Xu
Nick Yang
Kara Yoshikawa
Ayi Yotam
Mr. and Mrs. Yow
Jessica Zenk

Samantha Mlinarich, in honor of all
God's creations
Carolyn and John Morse, in honor
of Elena Seto, former employee and
caretaker of the jaguars, fossa and
meerkats. She hopes to return as a
volunteer when her time allows. From
her proud parents.
Debbie and Keith Pardue, for Jason,
Laure and Momo
Meryl Parks, dedicated to Mia and Alex
Heidi and Robert Smith, In appreciation
of Kendra Smith
Karen Strobach, in honor of Lissa Kreisler
Amy Winkleblack, in honor of Amy, Laurel,
and Lindsay for being a great team!
Michele and Steve Wymer, dedicated to
all who love San Jose
Kara Yoshikawa, on behalf of
Troop 60460

IN MEMORIAM
Ian Hill, in memory of Laura and
Phil Davis
Lisa and David Pagan, dedicated to
Koa Pagan

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Thank you to these companies
and foundations that invested
in Happy Hollow Park & Zoo
programs, events and exhibits.

$10,000 and above
Apple, Inc.
County of Santa Clara
Hugh Stuart Center Charitable Trust
Kaiser Permanente
Jeffrey and Leanne Sobrato Fund
Star One Credit Union
West Valley Construction

$2,500 to $9,999
Adobe
Blach Construction
California Bank of Commerce
California Water Service
Del Grande Dealer Group
eBay
Golden1 Credit Union
Google
GreenWaste Recovery
Harrell Remodeling
Johnson & Yau
Lewis and Tibbitts Inc
Lexus Stevens Creek
Manny and Cecile Hernandez
Charitable Foundation
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Republic Urban Properties
San Jose Water
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Family Foundation
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The San Jose Flea Market

YOUTH DONORS
Miramonte Christian School
8th grade class
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Lincoln Adams and Ella Adams
Richard Aljuni, in honor of Lissa Kreisler
Maegan Bartlett-Berkman,
on behalf of Laura Henderson
Ron Cali, in honor of Lissa Kreisler
Carol and Thom Chivers, dedicated to
Morgan and Anna Chivers, who both
have great memories of Happy Hollow!
Laurie Elliot, on behalf of Michael Lee
Daxx Esparza, in honor of Kirk and Erik
Walukiewicz
David Ginsborg, dedicated to Amy
Pizarro for the wonderful work she’s
doing for Happy Hollow
Stephen Hines, on behalf of Karuna
Maya Hines and family
Miriam Intrator, in honor of Jonah
Jacoby's Happy 6th Birthday!
Marilyn Keelan, in honor of Alan
Highlander
Jeff Kusnitz, in honor of Birgit Kalvelage
Debby and Tom Martin, in honor of
Amy Winkleblack

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Charitable Foundation
Olander Family Foundation
Republic Urban Properties
San Jose Water
Stere and Catherine Jacob
Family Foundation
Tech CU
The San Jose Flea Market
Daniel the Dragon’s Dreambuilders are Happy Hollow Foundation’s closest partners — donors who invest in Happy Hollow with gifts of $1,000 or more. They directly support the foundation’s work in conservation, education and play at Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, while enjoying unique benefits at every level. Visit happyhollow.org/dreambuilders for more information.

Thank You

**CREATORS CORNER**

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- Shannon and Nicholas Adams
- Lily Ang and Francisco Imai
- Laura and Jason Bennett
- Lisa and Mike Beyersdoerfer
- Vikki Bowes-Mok and H.B. Mok
- Rebecca and Matt Bright
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- Debbie Bylina
- Yulia and Russ Caslis
- Lesley and Samuel Chang
- Esther and Stan-Tek Chen
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- Justin Fairchild
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- Stephanie and Michael Fuji
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- Samantha and Henry Herman
- Stephen Hines
- Maia Hoover and Conrad Shultz
- Tsui Ming Ho and Kok Leong Choo
- Kristin and Jeff Huget
- John Hupton
- Kristine Kelly and Arthur Gleckler
- Suzanne Khan
- Nadia and Mark Kilgore
- Korin and Douglas King
- Anastasia Kolenda and Jeremy Stober

**$250 to $999**
- Amazon Smile
- Cigna
- Cisco Systems
- HMH Engineers
- Netflix

**$25 to $249**
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- Dell EMC
- George and Betty Moore Foundation
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**$1,000-$2,499**
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- Cisco Systems
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- Netflix

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- Dell EMC
- George and Betty Moore Foundation
- GitHub
- IBM International Foundation
- KLA Foundation
- LinkedIn

These lists reflect gifts made between Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2021. If you are interested in supporting Happy Hollow Foundation, contact Amy Pizarro, Executive Director, at apizarro@happyhollow.org.
Save the date in 2022

**Fourth Thursday of the Month, May–October**

**May 26, June 23, July 28, Aug. 25, Sept. 22, Oct. 27**

9 a.m. to 10 a.m. | Free admission, free parking

Happy Hollow Park & Zoo is a place for the young and the young at heart! At Senior Safari, visitors age 50 and up take over San Jose’s iconic park and zoo. Get some fresh air and exercise as you enjoy:

- Early entry
- Animal Meet & Greets
- Zookeeper chats
- Variety of activities
- Guests who enter before 10 a.m. may stay the whole day for free!

[happyhollow.org/seniorsafari](http://happyhollow.org/seniorsafari)

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**Sample Auction Items!**

**Danny’s Wine Train:** This package will treat a party of 20 to an after-hours grown-up adventure at Happy Hollow. A generous sampling of four fine wines to be savored while relaxing on the iconic Danny the Dragon train ride.

**Zookeeper for a Day:** Would you like to know what it’s like to work at a zoo? You’ll get to spend the morning behind the scenes helping with daily duties, learning about animal care and getting one-on-one time with professional zoo staff.

[happyhollow.org/auction](http://happyhollow.org/auction)

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**Bog at the Zoo**

Join us for a family-friendly Halloween celebration at Happy Hollow. There’ll be costumes, candy and loads of fun! Check out [happyhollow.org](http://happyhollow.org) in the fall for more details.