



For Immediate Release

November 18, 2025

Contact:

Sandi Costa-Adams

sadams@sjgov.org

(209) 331-2050

Winners Announced for Micke Grove's Mini Golf Naming Contest *Local Students Honor Park's History with Name Submissions*

Lodi, CA – In an inspiring demonstration of creativity and community engagement, two students from Lodi and Stockton have been announced as the winners of the naming contest for a new zoo-themed miniature golf course set to open at Micke Grove Regional Park.

Natalia Ruiz Duran, a student at Leroy Nichols Elementary in Lodi, and Grace Gianelli from Venture Academy in Stockton, were chosen for their complementary entries, which together form the name of the new attraction: **FunTown Safari Miniature Golf!**

Everly Compton of Lodi and Javier Ruiz of Stockton were recognized as 1st Runners-Up for their submission, *Swinging Safari*, while Violet Weidman from Ripon earned the 2nd Runner-Up position with her entry, *The Putting Zoo*.

The combination of Duran's Fun Safari Mini Golf and Gianelli's FunTown Miniature Golf resonated with the contest's Selection Committee, offering a playful nod to the whimsical history of FunTown Amusement Park while capturing the adventurous essence of Micke Grove Zoo.

Over 50 students from across San Joaquin County participated in the contest, submitting their ideas for naming Micke Grove's latest addition. Once completed, FunTown Safari Miniature Golf will feature a 9-hole course designed for young children and their families, as well as a traditional 18-hole course for children, teens and adults. The facility will also include a reservable event space, a children's play zone, water features, art installations and more.

Micke Grove Regional Park is located at 11793 N. Micke Grove Rd. in Lodi. For further information, please visit sjparks.com or call (209) 953-8800.

###