



City Hall News

From District 1 City Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

May 2023

SantaClaraCA.gov

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Job Opportunities

Join the Center of What's Possible! View all job opportunities and for information on how to apply, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/Jobs.



Message from Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

Spring has sprung and so has the Super Bloom!

The rain has tapered and it is wonderful to see how the Bay Area is so green and blossoming with all of the rain over the last few months. Santa Clara County Parks are looking forward to a season of incredibly colorful wildflowers as a result. If you are looking for a great family outing of hiking and enjoying the abundance of wildflowers in Santa Clara County, you can visit the County [webpage here](#) for more information.



Meeting with Assemblymember Evan Low

After the redistricting of State Assembly areas, the City of Santa Clara had a new assemblyman, Evan Low. Assemblymember Low has been doing a great job getting to know Santa Clara along with his staff. Recently I had an opportunity to sit down and have coffee with him and talk about District 1 and how the area is growing and there are many developers interested in making North Santa Clara a great place to live. One thing I talked about was traffic and the increased need for better pedestrian crossings on many of our major streets like Agnew Road. The State budget isn't promising a lot this year but if there is a possibility for grants or money for safer road crossings, I have shared that our City needs it.

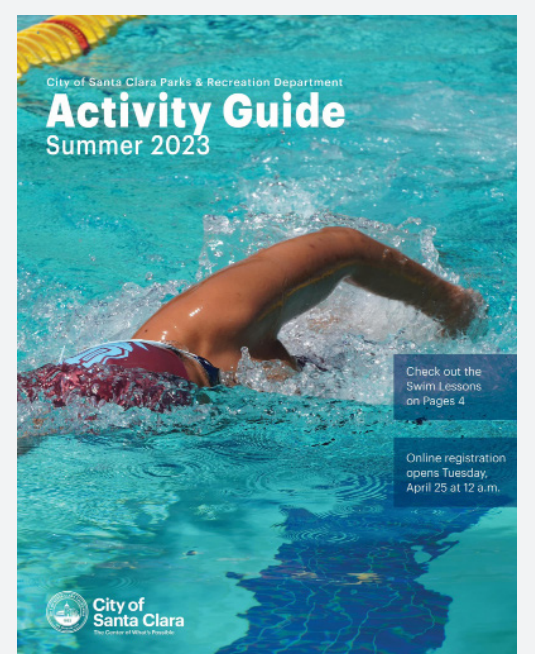


Assemblymember Evan Low

Summer Fun with Santa Clara Parks & Recreation

Summer is just around the corner. The City's summer activity guide was recently published and sent out. If you are looking for some summer camps and fun for your child, you can also go online to see what activities are available for the whole family. There is something for everyone of all ages. [Summer Activity Guide \(flippingbook.com\)](https://flippingbook.com)

If you are a high school or college student looking for a summer job, there are opportunities for lifeguards or camp counselors and more! Positions start at \$17.20/hour and are as needed. If you are interested, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/jobs.



[City of Santa Clara](https://www.facebook.com/CityofSantaClara)

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[@CityofSantaClara](https://www.youtube.com/CityofSantaClara)

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Message From Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

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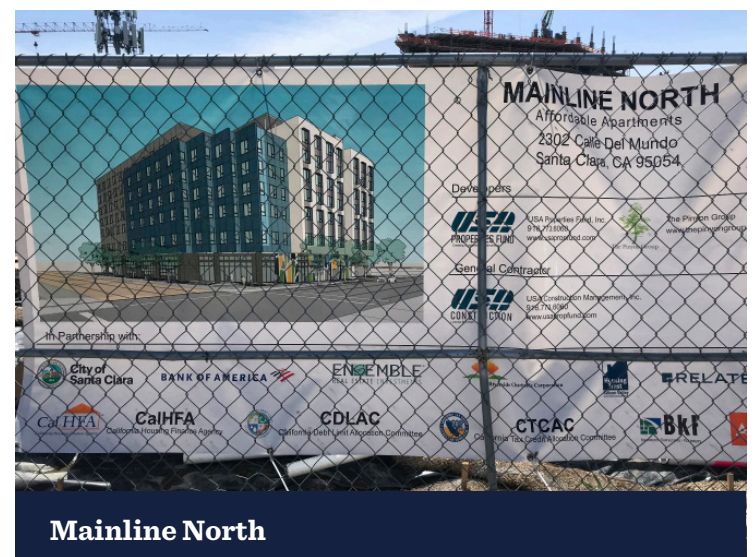
Heritage India Faire Series

On Saturday, April 15, I attended a great evening at the India Community Center in Milpitas honoring Sankranti, Baishakhi, Ugadi, Gudi Padwa, and Utkal Divas and an opportunity to share their unique significance and traditions. Renowned playback singer Swayam Padhi from India, along with our local Bay Area fame Ishmeet Narula, International Indian Artist & [Manasa Gadepalli](#) will be providing a lovely musical journey to bring the festivities to life. Jyoti Kala Mandir, Indraadhanush Center for Excellence, Nataraj School of Dance, Ollywood team and others enthralled the audience showcasing the beautiful culture of India. It was an honor to represent the City of Santa Clara at this entertaining event!



Mainline North Affordable Housing Project Breaks Ground on Calle del Mundo

USA Properties has started construction on an 8-story, 151 units of housing that will include studios up to three-bedroom apartments scheduled to open in 2025. Apartments will be available to households that earn 30-70% (\$35,440 to \$106,100/year) of the area's median income. Rents will start from about \$850 for a studio to \$1080 for a two-bedroom apartment. The development will provide much needed workforce housing as part of a public-private partnership with the City of Santa Clara. The development will also provide a community room with a kitchen, an arts and crafts flex room, a computer area with free wi-fi and a rooftop courtyard on the fourth floor that includes outdoor seating and BBQ areas and a pet wash station!



This development is part of the Tasman East Specific Plan located in a transit-oriented and walkable neighborhood. The City is proud to be part of this new development along with Bank of America, California Housing Finance Agency, Google, Ensemble Real Estate Investments, Housing Trust Silicon Valley and Related.

Eco Fair at Mission College

Thank you Mission College for the invitation to participate in the annual EcoFair on Wednesday, April 19! Through research and development, more opportunities are available to protect our planet. So glad to see the college and students implementing sustainable solutions for climate change and do their part to protect the planet. Great support from [Mayor Lisa Gillmor](#) for the continued success of these efforts.



Fairway Glen Community Engagement Meeting

After hearing complaints and concerns of racers in neighborhoods, several Fairway Glen neighbors reached out to me. It was a good opportunity for a community meeting. The Zoom meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, at 6:30 p.m. The Mayor and I will also be in attendance as well as officers from SCPD. Here is the Zoom and dial-in information.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3915841817?pwd=OTZqRi84dDIEMi9nTFphT2tZZDNEdz09>

Meeting ID: 391 584 1817

Passcode: 072031

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 391 584 1817

Passcode: 072031

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3915841817?pwd=OTZqRi84dDIEMi9nTFphT2tZZDNEdz09>

Wishing you and yours peace,

Kathy Watanabe

Councilmember, District 1

City of Santa Clara

CITY NEWS & UPDATES

Learn about the latest updates in Santa Clara

City of Santa Clara Welcomes New City Manager

Beginning May 1, 2023, the City of Santa Clara welcomes Jōvan D. Grogan to the position of City Manager. A native of the Bay Area, City Manager Grogan has a proven track record of helping public agencies resolve fiscal challenges and establishing strategic partnerships that benefit local communities. He previously served as the City Manager for the City of San Bruno, and as Deputy City Manager in Berkeley and Concord. City Manager Grogan holds a Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Studies as well as a Master of Regional Planning, both from Cornell University. He will also serve as the Executive Director of the Santa Clara Stadium Authority, and is responsible for oversight of Silicon Valley Power, the City's electric utility, and the Santa Clara Convention Center.



**City Manager
Jōvan D. Grogan**

Santa Clara City Library Eliminates Overdue Fines for Children and Adults



Eliminating Overdue Fines

The Santa Clara City Library has officially eliminated late fines for overdue library materials! This is part of a nationwide effort to address equity issues and remove barriers to access and use of libraries! Libraries nationwide have been moving towards eliminating overdue fines after research showed fines are ineffective in getting materials returned on time and deter the public from using the library. What's more, those most negatively impacted by overdue fines are often children and families experiencing economic hardship, creating equity barriers to Library services. Guided by this research, the American Library Association passed a resolution in favor of eliminating these fines in 2019. The Santa Clara City Library recognizes that eliminating overdue fines increases equity in access to public services, particularly among members of our community who can most benefit from them. Materials must be returned in a timely way for all to enjoy, but if they are returned a little late, there will no longer be overdue fines. We celebrate a more equitable and welcoming Library for all and encourage everyone to come check out a new book and enjoy all the free resources available to you!

Magical Bridge Playground Proudly Comes to Central Park

The wait is over! Central Park's Arbor Center Playground is getting an upgrade. Construction is underway for an inclusive playground designed for people of all ages, sizes, and abilities. Be on the lookout for signs and park area closures. This new play space will take the place of the current Arbor playground. To learn more, visit the [Magical Bridge Santa Clara website](#).

Bikeway Planning Studies

In January 2023, the City kicked off four bikeway planning studies along the following corridors:

- Study Corridor 1: De La Cruz Boulevard (Central Expressway to Lafayette Street) and Coleman Avenue (De La Cruz Boulevard to Brokaw Road)
- Study Corridor 2: Martin Avenue (Lafayette Street to De La Cruz Boulevard) and Walsh Avenue (Bowers Avenue to Lafayette Street)
- Study Corridor 3: Monroe Street (Lawrence Expressway to San Tomas Expressway)
- Study Corridor 4: Benton Street (Dunford Way to Lincoln Street)



Bikeway Planning Studies

The goal of these projects is to study how to implement improvements along these roadways as recommended within the City's Bicycle Plan, including potential parking removal and lane reduction options. Information about each corridor, future public meetings and online surveys can be found by visiting SantaClaraCA.gov/BikePedProjects and clicking on each project webpage.

Remembering former City Manager, Donald Ralph Von Raesfeld Sr.

Former City Manager, Don Von Raesfeld, Sr., passed away on Easter Sunday while attending mass at St. Clare's Church at the age of 96. Don was a visionary who was not afraid to challenge the status quo and played a key role in building partnerships between community, business and local government. Don started his career in Public Works before serving as City Manager from 1960-1985. He served a 4-year term on the City Council until 1992. Don was instrumental in bringing tech to the area, with companies like Intel, National Semiconductor and Applied Materials making Santa Clara their home. The development of California's Great America, Mission College and the Santa Clara Convention Center were a few of the accomplishments during his term as City Manager. Like most Bay Area residents, he loved the Niners and helped champion the San Francisco 49ers training camp relocation, eventually leading to the construction of Levi's Stadium. And he did all this while maintaining a household of 9 children and a slew of grandchildren (35) with his wife, Celine, lovingly by his side until her death in 1997. Don Von Raesfeld, Sr. was considered by many to be the Mission City's greatest City Manager, and also one of the most influential city managers in Bay Area history.



Don Von Raesfeld, Sr.

Tee It Up Fore Mental Health Golf Tournament

The Santa Clara Firefighters Foundation hosted their inaugural Tee It Up Fore Mental Health Golf Tournament on April 14 at Poppy Ridge Golf Course. The tournament, which supports mental health for first responders, was a huge success due to the collective team of sponsors, participants, and volunteers, raising over \$25K to benefit mental health for first responders.



Tee It Up Fore Mental Health Golf Tournament

Put Your Feet to the Pedal - May is Bicycle Awareness Month!

The warmer weather and Bike to Work Day (Thursday, May 11) are usually the kick-off to more and more bicyclists riding throughout our community. Bicycles on the roadway are, by law, vehicles with the same rights and responsibilities as motorized vehicles. This means bicyclists must obey the rules of the road like drivers of any other vehicle and must be treated as equal users by all other vehicles.

The best way to avoid collisions is to be prepared and be aware of other vehicles around you. Avoid common bicyclist errors and common motorist errors committed around bicyclists.

Below are some important safety tips for biking in Santa Clara:

- Keep your bike in good repair
- Wear a helmet and never ride with headphones
- Always wear bright colored, reflective clothing
- Obey traffic signs and signals
- Never ride against traffic
- Don't pass on the right
- Keep both hands on the handlebars ready to brake
- Use hand signals for stopping and turns
- Make eye contact with drivers
- Look out for road hazards
- Use lights at night

In addition, write down your serial number, take a photograph of your bike, store it in a secure place with a good lock to protect your investment.

City Kicks Off Safe Routes to School Program Phase III

On April 10, 2023, the City of Santa Clara, and the Santa Clara Unified School District (SCUSD) kicked off the third phase of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program at Hughes Elementary School. Since 2014, the City of Santa Clara SRTS program has taught elementary and middle school students how to navigate roadways and understand traffic rules as they walk, bike, and scooter to and from school. During the event, interactive exhibits were set up to demonstrate the types of hazards that children may encounter as they travel back and forth from school. Additionally, children watched a demonstration on the effectiveness and importance of bicycle helmet use. For more information on the Safe Routes to School Program, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/SafeRoutestoSchool.



Safe Routes to School Program



Safe Routes to School Program

Thanks for Saving Our Water, Santa Clara

The City's Water & Sewer Utilities Department would like to thank Santa Clarans for their impressive water conservation efforts during the drought emergency. Though the Governor removed his statewide call for 15% water use reduction on March 24th, Santa Clara County must continue focusing on water conservation as a way of life due to frequent drought recurrence. We have become accustomed to stretching our water use during the past ten years, seven of which have been years of historic drought according to the US Geological Survey and Valley Water. We're experienced water savers. Let's continue making water conservation a way of life! Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/SaveOurWater for ongoing water status updates.



National Bike Month and Bike to Wherever Days 2023

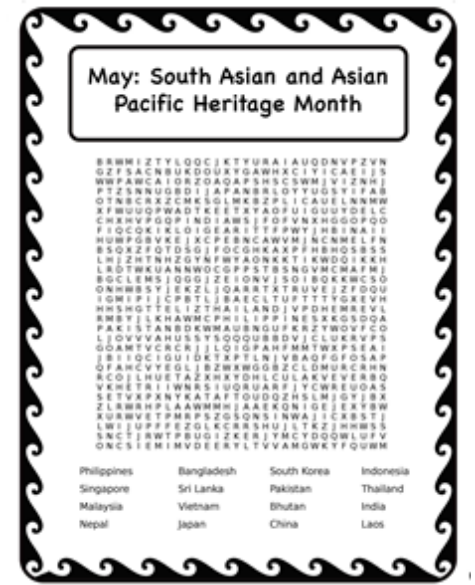
May is National Bike Month, promoted by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities from coast to coast. Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more people to giving biking a try. Visit BikeLeague.org for more information about National Bike Month.

Locally, the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) is celebrating National Bike Month with the Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days 2023 on May 18, 19, and 20. On Bike to Wherever Days, the City will staff an Energizer Station to offer items to bicyclists and celebrate National Bike Month. Visit BikeSiliconValley.org. Additionally, SVBC has invited cities across San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to a friendly competition called the Silicon Valley Pedal Power Challenge. This challenge will track how many "pledges to ride" are obtained per City. Please show your support for the Santa Clara bicycling community by signing up for the [Pledge to Ride!](#)



May is South Asian and Asian Pacific Heritage Month!

The Cultural Commission's Commemorative Months Coloring Book is available with monthly coloring pages and activities. This month has a thought-provoking word search. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CulturalCommission to learn more.



Hosting a National Night Out Event is as easy as 1, 2, 3

Neighbors who know each other are better at looking out for one another. Take advantage of the long summer days and plan a get together with your neighbors! National Night Out is a great opportunity to bring people together to strengthen the sense of community in your neighborhood and meet City and School District administrators as well as the public safety personnel who work hard to keep Santa Clara safe.

1. Determine a location (your front yard, local park)
2. Invite neighbors, friends and family to the event – August 1, 2023 from 6-8pm
3. Learn more and register your event by July 21 at SantaClaraCA.gov/NationalNightOut

For more information, call 408-615-4872.

Affordable Rental Units Available at Monroe Commons

Monroe Commons located at 2330 Monroe St. in Santa Clara is now accepting applications for 40 affordable rental units. Applications for the lottery can be submitted online through May 5, 2023, at 5 p.m. Preference will be given to those residing or working in the City of Santa Clara. 25% of the units will be reserved for households with intellectual or developmental disabilities referred through the Housing Choices Coalition. For amenities, full eligibility requirements and contact information, visit the [Monroe Commons Webpage](#).



Affordable Rental Units Available

Utility Box Art Program

The Cultural Commission's Utility Box Art Program has wrapped up the 2022/23 season! The last three Utility Boxes have been transformed into beautiful vibrant art. All artists creatively captured this year's theme, "Renewal". Visit the boxes to see the colorful designs come to life, while bringing a sense of community to so many neighborhoods.

- 1) "Our Houses by the Bay" by Helen Kong is located at the corner of Agnew Rd. and Sun Fire Way.
- 2) "Beyond Your Imagination" by Cynthia Pilgrim is located at the corner of Bowers Ave. and Cabrillo Ave.
- 3) "We are in it Together" by Geeta Taneja is located at the corner of Benton St. and Pomeroy Ave.



1) "Our Houses by the Bay" by Helen Kong



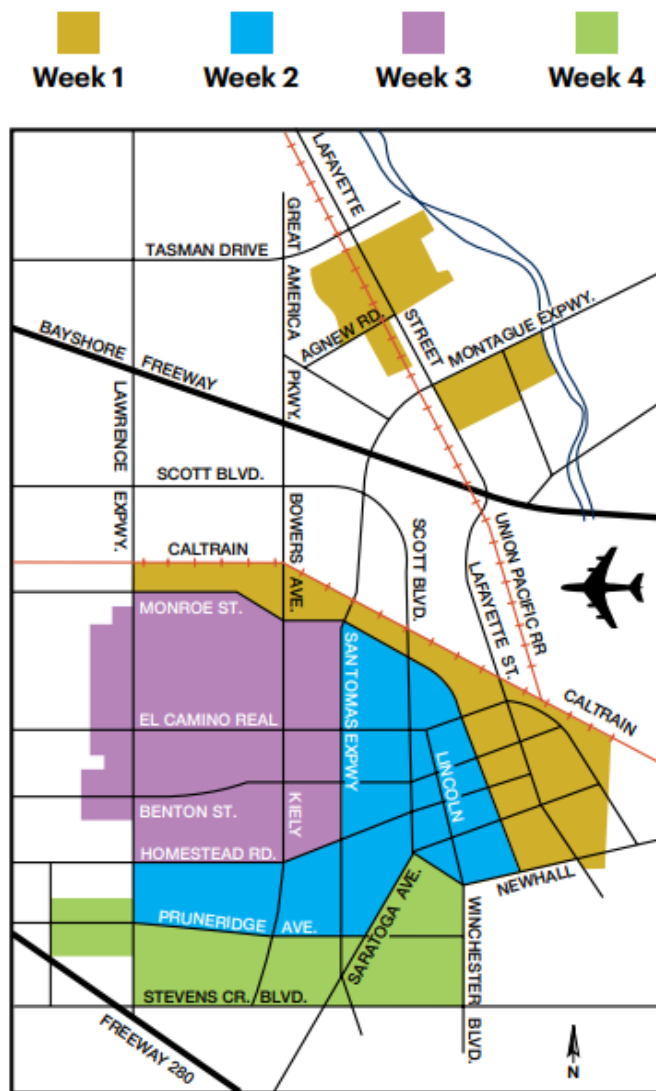
2) "Beyond Your Imagination" by Cynthia Pilgrim



3) "We are in it Together" by Geeta Taneja

EVENTS & MEETINGS

Find out what's happening in Santa Clara



Questions?
 Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanUp
 Call 408-615-3080
 Email Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov

Week 1 – Set out materials no earlier than Saturday, April 29 and no later than 7 a.m., Monday, May 1.
 Note: Includes both sides of Monroe.

Week 2 – Set out materials no earlier than Saturday, May 6 and no later than 7 a.m., Monday, May 8.
 Note: Includes both sides of Newhall between Saratoga and Winchester, both sides of Saratoga between Scott and Pruneridge, and north side of Pruneridge between Saratoga and Lawrence.

Week 3 – Set out materials no earlier than Saturday, May 13 and no later than 7 a.m., Monday, May 15.
 Note: Includes both sides of Homestead between San Tomas and Lawrence.

Week 4 – Set out materials no earlier than Saturday, May 20 and no later than 7 a.m., Monday, May 22.
 Note: Includes the south side of Pruneridge between Saratoga and Lawrence and both sides of Pruneridge west of Lawrence and east of Saratoga.

Annual Cleanup Campaign

Santa Clara’s Annual Cleanup Campaign will take place **May 1 – May 26**. On designated weekends, eligible residences may set out bulky items that are not routinely collected by weekly solid waste services. Collection crews will be picking up furniture, appliances, e-waste, tires, residential construction debris and yard waste. All concrete, asphalt, dirt, brick, rocks, drywall and/or sawdust **MUST** be set out in a construction debris bulk bag to prevent it from entering the storm drains. Acceptable bags are made of heavy-duty tarp or plastic material made specifically for construction debris and can be no larger than one cubic yard in size. Debris bulk bags can be purchased at a retailer of your choice or at the Municipal Utility Services counter located at 1500 Warburton Ave for \$23.79 each starting April 4. Failure to use debris bags to contain residential construction/demolition debris is subject to a \$150 fine. A total of 1 cubic yard of bagged debris will be picked up at no charge. Any additional bagged material will be collected for a fee of \$25 per cubic yard. Household hazardous material is **NOT** accepted. For set-out instructions and a list of accepted and prohibited materials, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanUp. Questions? Call 408-615-3080 or email Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov.



Sunset Cinema

Join the Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department for Sunset Cinema featuring the heartwarming animated movie, “Moana” on **Friday, May 12** at Live Oak Park, 641 Moreland Way. Movie starts at dusk, approximately 8 p.m. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/SunsetCinema for more information.



Kids Rock

Kids K-5th grade can join us for the next Kids Rock event on **Friday, May 19, 2023!** Get ready to hang out with your best buds for a special night of activities that include recreation games, arts and crafts, music, an inflatable slide, and more! Kids Rock will be held at the Santa Clara Youth & Teen Center (2446 Cabrillo Ave) from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Register your child by visiting SantaClaraCA.gov/Activenet. For more information, contact the Youth & Teen Center at 408-615-3760 or visit SantaClaraCA.gov/YTC.



National River Cleanup Day

Pollution prevention starts at our front doors. Trash can travel through storm drains, creeks, and rivers to become Bay pollution that is harmful to the environment. Participate with other volunteers to help keep our ecosystems and waterways free from trash. The City of Santa Clara will host two cleanup sites on **Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.** Register for a cleanup and help be the solution to water pollution! For detailed information and to register, visit cleanacreek.org.

CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

Participate in year-round classes and activities for all ages

Parks & Recreation Drop in Programs

Do you want to get some exercise or try something new this spring but don't want to commit to a set schedule? Why not try out Group Exercise classes at the Community Recreation Center, Drop-in Play at the Reed & Grant Sports Park or Lap Swim at the International Swim Center. These programs are convenient, affordable and flexible. One Activity Pass provides access to all three programs. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/ActivityPass](https://santacruz.ca.gov/ActivityPass) for specific schedules and additional information.

Summer Fun in Santa Clara!

Spend your summer in Santa Clara exploring, learning new skills, and making friends! Our amazing staff has been busy planning exciting summer camps and classes so you can have the perfect summer! Choose from full or half day camps to swim lessons, art, gymnastics, theater, and more! The Summer 2023 Activity Guide is available online and registration is underway. The adventures begin the week of June 5. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses](https://santacruz.ca.gov/RecClasses) for more information.

Special Event Sponsorship Opportunities

Partner with us! Take an active role in the community and sponsor City of Santa Clara special events throughout the year to help build your brand awareness. Events include Art & Wine Festival, Concerts in the Park, 4th of July All City Picnic and more. A variety of packages are available to suit any budget. Fill out the [Online Sponsor Application](#) or contact Tyler Freitas at TFreitas@SantaClaraCA.gov for more information.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

Events below are held at Santa Clara Senior Center located at 1303 Fremont Street, Santa Clara.

“Be Strong, Live Long” Health & Wellness Fair

On **Friday, May 19, 2023 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**, the Santa Clara Senior Center will host the “Be Strong, Live Long” Health and Wellness Fair at Fremont Park, adjacent to the Senior Center. This event celebrates and supports older adults working to improve their own health and those caring for older family or friends.

The Fair is sponsored by the Senior Advisory Commission, the Santa Clara Senior Center, and Kaiser Permanente. With over 50 resource booths specializing in health and wellness resources, attendees can access:

- Free blood pressure checks provided by the Senior Center Health & Wellness Program.
- Information about services from local organizations, such as Heart of the Valley, the Public Health Department and Second Harvest, as well as from the national organizations, like the American Heart Association and the Alzheimer's Association.
- A barbeque lunch offered from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. for \$7.00.
- Bicycle energizer station provided by Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, who will provide a swag bag to those who pledge online to ride their bikes.

Public parking will be available in the Senior Center main parking lot and on the street along Fremont and Harrison. The community is encouraged to carpool, walk, or ride a bike to the event. Free bicycle parking will be available.

New Classes at the Senior Center to Boost Your Fitness

Kick your fitness into high gear and push your body to the max with Boot Camp with Amber! Improve your physical health and mental toughness on your way to accomplishing fitness goals you never thought possible. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet](https://santacruz.ca.gov/ActiveNet) for specific schedules and additional information.

Water Walking

Water provides many beneficial properties such as resistance, assistance, drag, and turbulence. Tone and strengthen your body, improve balance, posture, agility, and coordination. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet](https://santacruz.ca.gov/ActiveNet) for specific schedules and additional information.

Stay Up-To-Date on the Business License Tax Update

On Nov. 8, 2022, nearly 60% of Santa Clara voters passed Measure H to update the City's Business License Tax program, which goes into effect July 1, 2023. The update will generate approximately \$6M annually to support essential City services such as 911 response times, safe and clean public streets and facilities and the continued delivery of high-quality parks, recreation and library services. To help businesses navigate the upcoming changes to the Business License Tax program, the City of Santa Clara has created a [webpage](#) with the latest updates, answers to frequently asked questions and contact information.



Business License Tax Update

