



City Hall News

From District 1 City Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

December 2023

SantaClaraCA.gov

City Hall News Highlights

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Holiday Giving Tree

Deliver gifts to those in need at the Senior Center lobby now through Wednesday, Dec. 13

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Silicon Valley (SV) Hopper

New public rideshare service expands into Southern Santa Clara

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Recycle Your Holiday Tree

Trees collected curbside on regular garbage collection days during week of Jan. 8 – 12, 2024

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Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Spread the holiday cheer and participate at SantaClaraCA.gov/Contest



Message from Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

This is a wonderful time of year to live in the City of Santa Clara! We are so culturally diverse that there seems to be a new holiday or festive occasion to celebrate. It what makes our City special. I hope over the years we can build on that diversity and create new community events to celebrate each other.

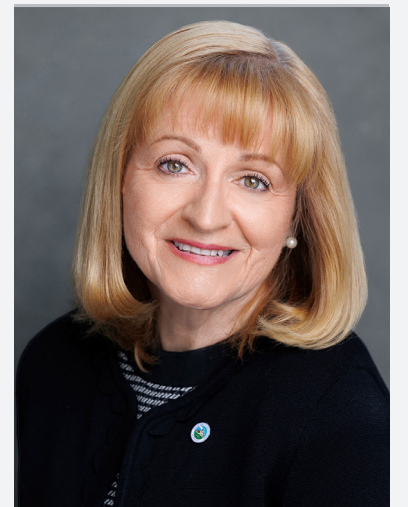
The months of November and December are usually very busy for Mayor and Council and this year that is certainly true. Here is a little of what we have been up to and what is in store for the month of December:

Sourcewise – Resource for Seniors and Their Families

It was an honor to attend the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Sourcewise whose offices are in the City of Santa Clara. They provide services and support to seniors and their caregivers in Santa Clara County. Services include legal services, care management, meals on wheels and so much more. Sourcewise has served over 100k clients and served almost 750k meals. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who have made this program successful. For more information, the website is mysourcewise.com.

River of Life Foundation and Giving Thanks

Thankful that the rain held off for this Thanksgiving feast of turkey and vegetarian meals on Saturday, November 18, that fed over 1600 people today! There was popcorn, cotton candy and churros for all too. There was face painting, jump houses and games for all. SCPD, SCFD and Sparky were also onsite greeting attendees. Thank you, Pastor Tong, Sam Loh, Bob Hu and all the volunteers who made this event so special and welcoming to everyone! It was an amazing time of celebration and thanksgiving.



Sourcewise Celebration



River of Life Foundation Event

Job Opportunities

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

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

[@SantaClaraCity](https://twitter.com/SantaClaraCity)

[@SantaClaraCity](https://www.instagram.com/SantaClaraCity)

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

Message continues on page 2.

Message From Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

Continued from page 1

Pragnya

On Saturday, November 18, it was a great evening of thanksgiving and appreciation for Pragnya, an organization that works with neurodivergent children and adults providing compassion, inclusivity and knowledge. Pragnya works with Community Frnds made up of local public safety and Allies that promote positive peer pressure and wisdom skills training and support neurotypical children and adults being accepted and appreciated as part of their community. Thank you to SCPD and the youth volunteers for your important contributions to Pragnya! For more information, please visit pragnya.org.



Pragnya Appreciation

Visit with Icheon, South Korea Delegation

Mayor Lisa Gillmor, City Manager Jovan Grogan and I recently met with the Vice Mayor of Icheon, South Korea, Gim Jar-Hyundai, and the Director of Icheon Sister Cities, during their recent visit to APEC 2023 in San Francisco. They paid an informal visit to Santa Clara to discuss the reinstating and signing of a Friendship City MOU in January 2024 and then collaboration of student visits between our two cities. Our cities had entered into a Friendship City MOU in 2019 just prior to the pandemic which halted any travel or activities for three years with South Korea and all of Santa Clara's Sister Cities. Margaret Horoszko, President of Santa Clara Sister Cities, joined us for lunch before our guests left for meetings in San Francisco. Thank you John Chung and Sang Seo Ahn of Silicon Valley Korean American Federation for initiating this relationship with Santa Clara back in 2018 and for translating the conversations!



Icheon, South Korea Delegation

Upcoming Holiday Events



Saturday, December 2 - The CalTrain Holiday Train will be at the Santa Clara Station on Saturday, December 2, from 8:10 - 8:30 p.m. Always a fun family holiday event!

Thursday, December 14 - More holiday fun at the Santa Clara Convention Center! Mark your calendars for this definitely fun family fest!!!

Sunday, December 17 - Please join the Fireman's Foundation Fun Run! 100% of the proceeds benefit Santa Clara Unified Santa Clara Unified School District through Santa Clara Schools Foundation!

Please support the Firefighters Foundation:

Help us spread the holiday cheer - our Holiday Toy Drive is here!! We are looking for new, unwrapped toys for children ages 7-17. (There is a need for toys for the older teens!)

Drop-off locations in Santa Clara are at:

- All City of Santa Clara Fire Stations
- The Community Risk Reduction Division (1675 Lincoln St., Santa Clara)
- Fire Administration (777 Benton St., Santa Clara)

Please contact Jillian at jdebar@santaclaraca.gov with any questions.

Best wishes for the Holidays and for a Happy New Year!

Kathy Watanabe

Councilmember, District 1



CITY NEWS & UPDATES

Learn about the latest updates in Santa Clara

Holiday Giving Tree

Hanukkah begins at sunset on December 7 with Christmas right after. Some of us are so lucky to have our essential needs met while others in our immediate community are not. Would you consider providing some basic necessities and holiday cheer to those who could use some TLC?

Visit our Giving Tree in the Senior Center lobby beginning November 27 to select an ornament that lists an item for you to purchase. Many of the options are gift cards, which can be used for groceries, clothing, and bills, and are greatly appreciated. Deliver your unwrapped gift(s) to the Senior Center Front Desk no later than Wednesday, December 13. Our Health & Wellness Program staff will wrap items and make sure they reach their intended recipients.

If you know someone who would benefit from The Giving Tree, please contact Mallory von Kugelgen at mvonkugelgen@SantaClaraCA.gov or call 408-615-3180. Provide the person's name, how to contact them, item needed, and any specifics such as exact size or color preference. All information is confidential. Thank you in advance!



Winter Recreation Classes and Camps-New Registration Time!

Get ready for the winter season with the Parks & Recreation Department. Choose from a variety of recreation classes for all ages and holiday camps taught by our qualified instructors. The Winter 2023 Activity Guide is now available for viewing online. Resident registration begins Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 7 a.m. All the fun begins Jan. 7. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses for more information.

Presidential Volunteer Service Award

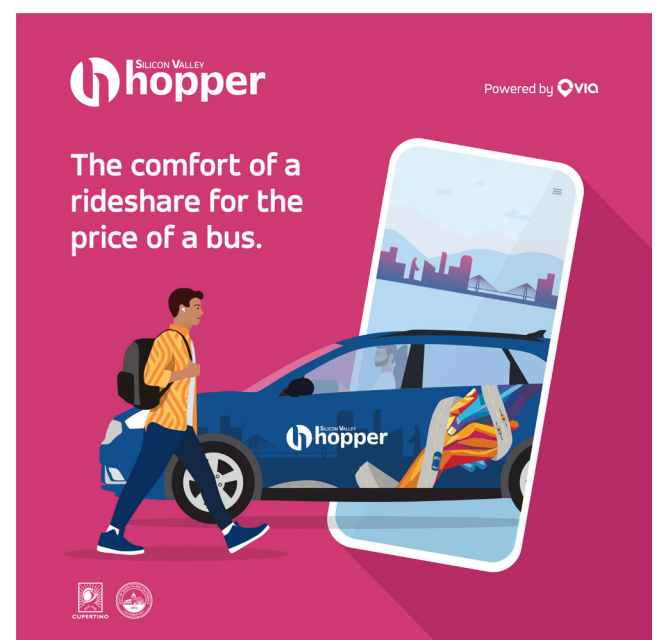
The Parks & Recreation Department is committed to creating opportunities for community involvement and is a certifying organization for the President's Volunteer Service Award which recognizes the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities and inspires those around them to take action. By the end of 2023, four student volunteers will receive a medal, pin, and signed certificate by the POTUS. For more information on various community service opportunities visit our [webpage](#) or call 408-615-3140 for more information.

Congratulations to the following awardees:

- Parth Chhabra: Gold Award, Teens – 115 hours
- Mihir Vinnakota: Bronze Award, Teens – 63.5 hours
- Medha Vinnakota: Bronze Award, Teens – 56.25 hours
- Vyom Shukla: Bronze Award, Teens – 67.25 hours

Rideshare Silicon Valley (SV) Hopper Expands Service to Southern Santa Clara

On Nov. 20, in partnership with the City of Cupertino, the City launched a new joint on-demand rideshare service, known as Silicon Valley (SV) hopper. This service offers public rideshare through a dedicated app, providing convenient transportation throughout Cupertino, the southern half of Santa Clara, and to specific destinations beyond city limits, such as the Sunnyvale and Mountain View Caltrain Stations. For details on the service and a link to download the app, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/SVHopper.



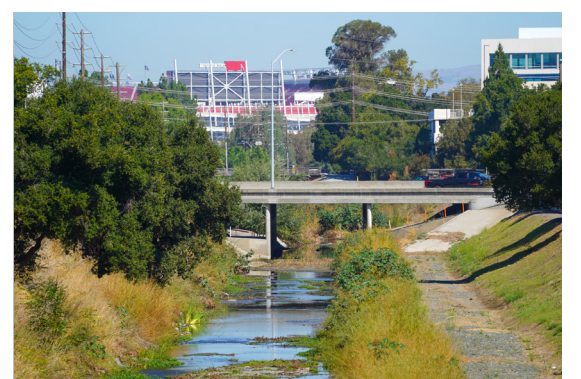
Silicon Valley Power Recognized as Smart Energy Provider

Silicon Valley Power has once again earned a Smart Energy Provider (SEP) designation from the American Public Power Association for demonstrating a commitment to and proficiency in energy efficiency, distributed generation, and environmental initiatives that support the goal of providing safe, reliable, low-cost, and sustainable electric service. [View the official news release.](#)

Flood Preparedness

The past year has shown that we need to be prepared for anything. Climate changes have made extreme weather the new normal. The City of Santa Clara as well as Santa Clara Valley Water District have many resources available to assist you with knowing your flood risk, insuring your property, protecting your home from flood threats, keeping creeks clean, floodwater hazards, and building responsibility in floodplains. You can find these resources via the links below:

- [City of Santa Clara Flood Homepage](#)
- [Inside Santa Clara Flood Article \(p. 6-8\)](#)
- [Valley Water Flood Mailer](#)



Flood Preparedness

A Message From Your Garden

“Stop watering me!” Once the cool season starts, most established landscapes don’t require supplemental irrigation. If you find your garden needs watering, be mindful of the City’s Water Use Restrictions and Prohibitions:

DO NOT

- X** Water lawns during or within 48 hours of measurable rainfall
- X** Run irrigation between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- X** Allow water to runoff onto sidewalks or other paved surfaces

If you see a violation of the water use prohibitions, report [water waste](#) via one of these methods:

- Complete an online [Water Waste Report](#)
- Submit a request via the MySantaClara mobile app
- Call the Water Department at 408-615-2000 during regular business hours

All state and countywide reports are received by Santa Clara staff for investigation.

\$5,000 Grants Available to High School Students for Energy Efficiency or Renewable Energy Projects

Silicon Valley Power offers grants up to \$5,000 for high school students to create projects or awareness campaigns to educate the Santa Clara community about energy efficiency and/or renewable energy. Examples include but are not limited to educational videos, public art displays, online resources, outreach materials, demonstration projects, webinars, or workshops. Content must promote energy efficiency and/or renewable energy.

The program is open to high school students who live in the City of Santa Clara or attend school at a site located within the Santa Clara city limits. Preference is given to projects that include components targeting diversity, equity and inclusion. Applications will be scored based on the content, key messages, target audience, community reach and value for the money spent.

Grant awards will be made twice per year with deadlines on Jun. 30 and Dec. 31. For complete eligibility requirements and program details, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/Grants.

\$100,000 Grants Available for Nonprofits to Install Solar Energy Systems

Silicon Valley Power has launched a program offering grants up to \$100,000 to qualifying nonprofit organizations for the installation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) system at facilities located in the city of Santa Clara. The program is intended to help nonprofit organizations offset up to 80% of their electric costs so those funds can be used on programs and services to support the Santa Clara community.

Grants may cover up to 100 percent of the system cost, and up to ten percent of the grant may be used on qualifying building repairs or infrastructure to make the site PV ready. Examples include roofing repairs or a ground mount structure to support PV panels.

Applications are pre-approved on a first come, first served basis until funds are exhausted. Customers will have six months from the date of pre-approval to install the PV system and receive the grant. For complete program details and to download an application form, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/BusinessRebates.

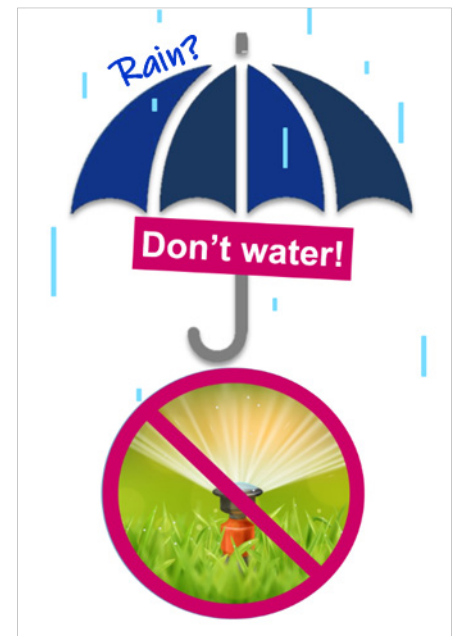
Shared Mobility Program Update

The City of Santa Clara Shared Mobility Program is in the second year of operation. For FY 2023-24 the City has selected Bird and Lime to participate in the Program. In October, Lime obtained an operating permit to deploy up to 300 e-scooters in Santa Clara. Recently, Bird obtained an operating permit to deploy up to 150 e-scooters. In total, Santa Clara will have up to 450 e-scooters deployed throughout the City for public rental. The goal of the Program is to provide an alternative travel option for Santa Clara residents and visitors to access transit, shopping, and entertainment areas. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/SharedMobilityProgram for more information about the program and customer service contact information. Members of the public may also use the [MySantaClara App](#) to submit comments to the City.

Holiday Solid Waste Collection

There will be NO solid waste collection services on Monday, Dec. 25 or Monday, Jan. 1. Collection will occur one day later on these weeks.

Residents with garbage cart service may set out up to two additional 32-gallon garbage bags (maximum weight 30 pounds per bag) on each of their collection days Dec. 26 – Jan. 6 at no extra charge. Commercial and multi-family registered account holders with front load bin service may arrange for one additional pickup, per garbage account, per year, at no extra charge by contacting Mission Trail Waste Systems at 408-727-5365.



Grants Available to High School Students



Solar Energy Grants for Nonprofits

Please recycle all non-metallic gift wrap, gift tissue paper, paper cards, boxes, and tags. For questions regarding residential recycling service, please contact Recology South Bay at 408-970-5100; for residential garbage and yard waste service, please contact Mission Trail Waste Systems.

Recycle Your Holiday Tree

Residential holiday trees will be collected curbside on regular garbage collection days during the week of Jan. 8 – 12. Remove all ornaments, tinsel, nails and the stand. After Jan. 12, cut up your tree and place the pieces in your green yard trimmings cart. Flocked trees should be cut up and placed in your garbage cart. For more information on holiday tree recycling and set-out instructions, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanSC or call the Dept. of Public Works at 408-615-3080.

Remember Your Reusables!

The holiday season is upon us and that means celebrating with family, friends, and food! Holiday gatherings create fun memories but can also create extra waste. Follow these tips for planning an eco-friendly celebration this holiday season.

1. Create a meal plan based on the number of people attending your celebration. Visit SaveTheFood.com to use the dinner party calculator to estimate how much food is needed based on the number of guests and the type of meal provided.
2. Check the pantry, refrigerator, and freezer to see if you already have items that you will need before grocery shopping for your planned feast. Doing so prevents overbuying and additional food waste.
3. Make a shopping list and only buy what is needed. Shopping with a list will keep you from overbuying and on budget!
4. Ditch the plastic utensils, cups, and paper napkins! Using reusable glass and cloth counterparts makes for a beautiful tablescape and keeps unnecessary items out of the landfill.
5. Encourage your guests to bring their own reusable containers for those yummy leftovers.

'Tis the Season for Car Break-ins and Package Thefts

'Tis the season for holiday shopping. Unfortunately, it's also the time of year where criminals target quick, easy and low-risk crimes – such as car break-ins and package thefts.

Remove the attraction by taking valuables out of your car when you are not in it – at home, at work, when you are out to eat, at the gym and in a shopping center. This includes purses, laptops, cell phones, GPS systems, sunglasses and bags (e.g. laptop bags, shopping bags, gym bag, etc.). Anything visible to a passerby can be a theft magnet!

You are also encouraged to put practices in place to outsmart package thieves, such as:

- Order well ahead of the holiday
- Deliver to a work address, ship to a locker (available at some grocers and convenience stores) or obtain via retailer curbside pick-up
- If shipping to your home, use a post office box, request signature on delivery or install a secure mailbox for deliveries
- Create a concealed delivery spot at your residence and provide instructions about where packages should be left
- Request ordinary, nondescript packaging
- Insure valuable items
- Set up text or email notifications for up-to-date package tracking
- Retrieve the package as soon as it arrives - possibly, with assistance from a neighbor, family member or friend
- Consider installing a security camera(s) or video doorbell, and advertise that you have a security system

Residents are asked to stay vigilant! Report suspicious activity to the Police Department by calling the non-emergency phone line at 408-615-5580. Public Safety Dispatchers will want to know details of the suspicious activity, suspect(s) description, vehicle details and direction of travel. Should you happen to witness a crime, do not approach the suspect. Instead, be a good witness and dial 9-1-1 immediately.

Holiday Party / Drinking and Driving

As the holidays approach, the Santa Clara Police Department (SCPD) is urging motorists to plan a safe ride home and never get behind the wheel drunk or under the influence of drugs. If you observe a drunk driver, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Don't jeopardize your life or the lives of others!

- Designate a sober driver
- Use a taxi or ride share
- Take public transportation
- Call a friend / family member



EVENTS & MEETINGS

Find out what's happening in Santa Clara



Stevens Creek Boulevard Vision Study Update

The cities of Santa Clara, San Jose, Cupertino, the County of Santa Clara and the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) are conducting an approximately two-year, community-based transportation study for the Stevens Creek Boulevard/West San Carlos corridor. The goal is to create a vision that focuses on complete streets, multi-modal transportation improvements, and possible high-capacity transit options to connect Diridon Station in San Jose through Santa Clara to the De Anza College/Highway 85 area in Cupertino. There is an upcoming engagement opportunity to learn more about the project:

Community Advisory Group Meeting #2

Santa Clara Central Park Library
2635 Homestead Rd, Santa Clara, CA
Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023
5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Visit the project website at StevensCreekVision.com to register and to view recorded videos for past public meetings. For any questions, please email stevenscreekvision@iteris.com.



Winter Coat Drive

Recology South Bay and the City of Santa Clara invite you to share the warmth by donating new or gently used coats for those in need this winter season. Through **Jan. 19, 2024**, collection boxes will be available at the following City locations:

- Mission Branch Library - 1098 Lexington St
- Central Park Library - 2635 Homestead Rd
- Northside Branch Library - 695 Moreland Way
- The Community Recreation Center - 969 Kiely Blvd

Drop off donations during open hours of operation. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/AccessSantaClara for current hours of operation. Questions? Email environment@santaclaraca.gov.

FREE Disposal Day!

For City of Santa Clara Residents Only



Saturday, January 20, 2024
6:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Free Disposal Day

Start the New Year off with less clutter around your home! Santa Clara's next Free Disposal Day will be held on **Saturday, Jan. 20 from 6 a.m. – noon**, at Mission Trail Waste Systems (MTWS) Transfer Station. Free Disposal Day provides residents an opportunity to dispose of appliances and e-waste items, as well as mattresses, furniture, and other bulky items at no cost. Appointments are required. Hazardous waste (e.g. paints, fluorescent bulbs, chemical cleaners, and pesticides, etc.), automotive parts, and pressure treated wood **are prohibited**. To participate in our "Free Disposal Day" call MTWS at 408-727-5365 between Jan. 8 - 19 to make an appointment and for details on location, load size limits and accepted/non-accepted materials. Proof of residency (utility bill or driver's license) is required. Residents are responsible for unloading their vehicles.

got household hazardous waste?



free drop-off disposal: saturday, january 27, 2024

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Event

Santa Clara residents can safely dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) at the free HHW drop-off event that will take place on **Saturday, Jan. 27** in Santa Clara or any of the HHW events located countywide throughout the year. Residents **must** register to attend this event by calling the County Household Hazardous Waste Program at 408-299-7300 or by visiting hww.org. Items that can be disposed of include fluorescent light tubes, compact fluorescent lightbulbs, paint, automotive fluids, cleaners, solvents, batteries, propane and helium tanks, fertilizers, pesticides, wood preservatives, sharps containers, prescription medications, electronic waste (e-waste), and other types of household hazardous wastes. Items NOT accepted include Styrofoam, large household appliances, ammunition, explosives, or containers larger than five gallons. For more information on the types of household hazardous waste that are accepted during this event, please visit hww.org. Contact the Police Department at 408-615-4700 regarding the disposal of ammunition or explosives.

CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

Participate in year-round classes and activities for all ages

'Tis the Season to Decorate Your Home for the Holidays!

Let's light up Santa Clara this December! Show off your holiday cheer by entering the Holiday Home Decorating Contest hosted by the Cultural Commission. Transform your front yard into the ultimate winter wonderland with holiday lights, inflatables, snowmen, and all the festive holiday decorations. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/Contest for more information.



December is National Human Rights Month!

The Cultural Commission invites you to enjoy their monthly coloring pages. Print, color, cut and personalize a bookmark to celebrate Santa Clara's diversity. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CulturalCommission for more information.

Purchase Your Activity Pass Today!

Adults, we have you covered with the 3-in-1 Activity Pass. Gain access to Group Exercise at the CRC, Lap Swim at the International Swim Center or Drop-in Play at the Reed and Grant Sports Park. Need to reload your pass? Not a problem! Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/ActivityPass for more information or call 408-615-3140.

Teacher Sean's Holiday Jingle Jam-Register now!

Need something fun to do over the holidays with your little kiddos, ages 1 month to 4 years? Teacher Sean is offering a special two-week holiday music class with festive dancing, singing holiday songs, moving, jamming, and loads of fun! Perfect for ages 4 and under with an adult. Classes start Dec. 6. Register at SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet.

Saturday Youth Basketball Program

The Youth Basketball Program is designed to introduce the fundamentals of basketball. This three-week coed instructional program will emphasize skill acquisition, teamwork, sportsmanship, drills, and recreational games. Teams will be created by coaches according to player's skill level. The ratio of participants to staff will not exceed 9:1.

For more information visit SantaClaraCA.gov/Activenet or email YTC@SantaClaraCA.gov.

Interactive Art Exhibit by Adrian Landon

The Mechanical Horse is a life-sized free exhibit located on the Santa Clara University campus (500 El Camino Real) through Jan. 21, 2024. Stop by to see this unique metal horse and press the button to see it gallop and come to life! It is a stunning example of cross-pollinating art and engineering. Visit SCUpresents.org for more information.

Pickleball Has Arrived at Central Park

Pickleball Reservation-Based Play Hours:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Saturday: 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday: 12 – 3 p.m.

Pickleball Court Rental Fees:

- Residents: \$8/hr.
- Non-Residents: \$10/hr.
- Reservations can be made by phone at 408-247-0178 or online at lt.clubautomation.com.

Pilot Pickleball Free Play Hours through 2023:

- Monday: 12 – 1:30 p.m.
- Wednesday: 12 – 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday: 3 – 4:30 p.m.

PRINT, CUT, COLOR, AND PERSONALIZE YOUR BOOKMARKS TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH



National Human Rights Month Coloring Page



The Mechanical Horse Exhibit

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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

NEW - Wire Weaving: Stone Donut Pendant

Activity #28585

Wednesdays from 5 – 7 p.m.

Dec. 6 – Jan. 24

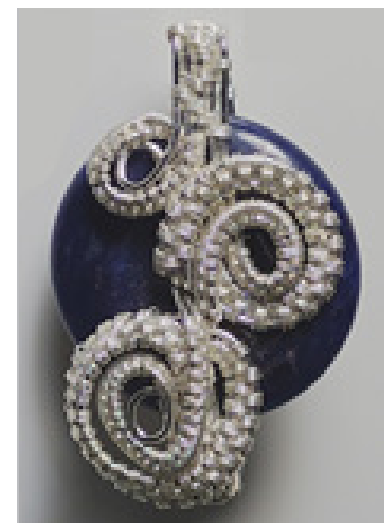
Resident: \$128

Non-Resident: \$158

Learn the beautiful art of jewelry wire weaving. Our instructor will teach three different weaves to create a stone donut pendant. Students will develop the skills to make the pendant and other wire woven items. All materials and tools will be provided to registered participants. Magnifying lamps will also be available for use in class.

Please note: This class is for those with some prior crafting experience and finger/hand dexterity. Classes for beginners will be offered in the future.

[Register online](#) or contact the Senior Center Front Desk for assistance 408-615-3170.



Stone Donut Pendant

Job Opportunities

The City of Santa Clara is looking for passionate team members in various fields to serve and enrich our diverse community. We have an opening for YOU on our team!

Openings in various fields such as:

- Administration
- Building Development
- Electric Utility
- Engineering
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Library Administration
- Maintenance
- Planning & Development
- Public Safety – Police & Fire
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Water & Sewer Utility

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

Report Concerns via Mobile App

Did you know you can report concerns with **MySantaClara** app? Download the free app to your smartphone to access options for service requests or information. Find it in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

To submit requests via the City website, submit issues online at SantaClaraCA.gov/mysantaclara.

