



# City Hall News

From District 1 City Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

May 2024

SantaClaraCA.gov

## City Hall News Highlights

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#### Save the Day to Plug-in & Play

Celebrate the 100th EV Charger installed in Santa Clara at Henry Schmidt Park, 555 Los Padres Blvd. May 2, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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#### VTA BART Silicon Valley Extension Phase II

Phase II will soon begin at VTA's Newhall Yard & Maintenance Facility in early May 2024

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#### Sunset Cinema

Watch *Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie* (2023) May 10 at Montague Park, 3595 MacGregor Lane

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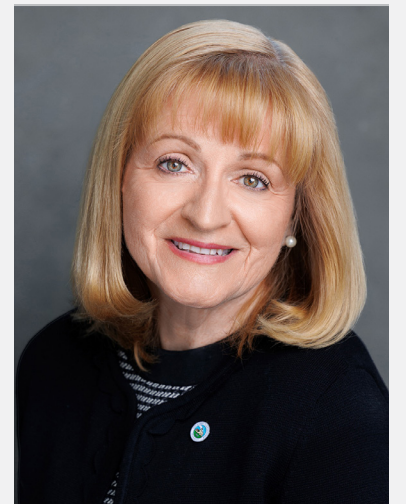
#### National River Cleanup Day

Two cleanup sites on Saturday, May 18, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Register online to attend



## Message from Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

Spring is in full bloom everywhere we look. It is a great time to be outdoors and enjoy nature at its best. It's a time for more outdoor activities. Here are some upcoming City events that will keep everyone happy:



### Sunset Cinema

May 10 - Montague Park, 3595 MacGregor Lane  
*Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie* (2023)

A magical meteor crash lands in Adventure City and gives the PAW Patrol pups superpowers transforming them into The Mighty Pups!



## Santa Clara County Parks Passes Available for Checkout at City Libraries

Now is the best time of year to hike and visit our County parks with family and friends!

Thanks to a partnership with the Santa Clara County Parks, all City Libraries (and the Bookmobile!) now offer Santa Clara County Parks Passes for checkout! These passes allow free access to almost all Santa Clara County Parks (excluding UVAs Canyon and Sunnyvale Baylands). Each pass may be checked out for 3 weeks and grants the cardholder free vehicle entry. This latest offering expands on the City's partnership with County Parks, which includes lending out hiking backpacks filled with items like wildflower guides, binoculars and a compass to get people outdoors and explore our beautiful open spaces. Library cardholders are welcome to visit the Central Park, Mission or Northside Libraries or the Bookmobile to learn more!



## Job Opportunities

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

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# Message From Councilmember Kathy Watanabe

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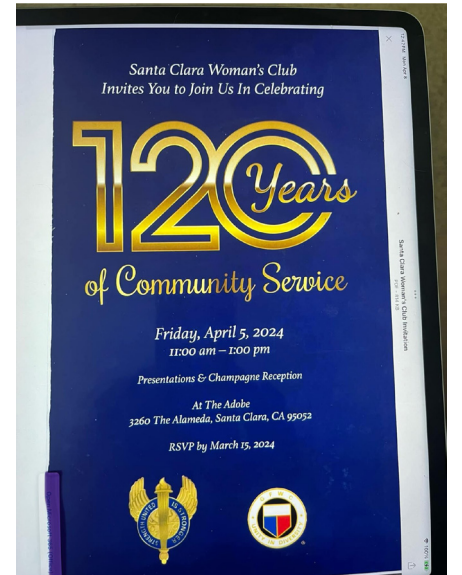


## Showcase on Youth: Santa Clara Math Circle

Arnav Ahuja, a SCHS Sophomore, has done a phenomenal job creating the Santa Clara Math Circle which inspires and supports elementary and middle school students to develop a love of mathematics. Arnav and his volunteers have had three programs to share their passion for math. Keep an eye out for [upcoming events](#) at a local school or library!

## Santa Clara Women's Club Celebrates 120 Years of Community

Congratulations to the Santa Clara Women's Club on their 120th anniversary. A great timeline of the club was presented at the recent anniversary celebration by Nancy Jo Banko. The Club was formed in 1914 and held meetings in The Adobe, a state landmark and one of the oldest surviving adobes in Northern California. The Club has been instrumental in creating many community projects during times of need. The Club has given back selflessly over the 120 years and had fun and created long-term friendships in the process. Thank you again to the Women's Club and maintaining the heritage of The Adobe.



## Fairway Glen Park Finally Has a Bathroom

The only City park that has never had a bathroom finally has one! As of Monday, April 22, the new Fairway Glen Park bathroom opened. Features include:

- Two fully accessible stalls
- Drinking fountain with a water bottle filler and a dog bowl
- Free public Wi-Fi
- Touchless faucets and hand dryers
- Security lighting and a camera



Representing Santa Clara in Washington, D.C.

## Representing the City of Santa Clara in Washington, D.C.

It is always an honor to represent our great City wherever I go - near or far. This was no different during my recent trip to Washington, D.C. from April 14-18. I also traveled with the Director of Silicon Valley Power, Manuel Pineda, Assistant Director Kathleen Hughes and Electric Division Manager Basil Wong, who are true experts when it comes to electricity and how to make energy cleaner and more efficient.

We attended the 2024 Federal Policy Conference in Washington, D.C. The focus of the conference was for members and electeds representing the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) to advocate before representatives of Congress and the Senate, Department of Energy, US Forest Service and

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on important issues like supply chain challenges, fire risk mitigation, clean hydrogen production, sediment buildup in waterways impacting hydropower and several related issues. These issues take time and it was evident that progress is being made. We were truly grateful to have time before Sen. Laphonza Butler (who was appointed to fill former Sen. Feinstein's seat) and Reps. Adam Schiff and Ro Khanna. Equally important was the time with their legislative staff who do a phenomenal job keeping the electeds informed. It takes a village but the impact can have a nationwide result. For that, I am honored to be a part of the discussion.

## In Closing...

The month of May will be filled with many celebrations as high school and college graduations start taking place. Best wishes to all who have loved ones graduating this year. It's hard to believe it has been a year since my daughter graduated from University of Redlands. Also! Don't forget Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12! There are many grandmothers, mothers, aunts and sisters who are tremendous role models who go above and beyond the role of Mother. Don't forget to show the love!

Sincerely,

Kathy Watanabe  
Councilmember, District 1



# CITY NEWS & UPDATES

Learn about the latest updates in Santa Clara

## Save the Day to Plug-in & Play

Join Silicon Valley Power on Thursday, May 2, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for a ribbon-cutting for the 100th EV Charger installed in the City of Santa Clara at Henry Schmidt Park, 555 Los Padres Blvd.

Plug-in and play with a game of tennis or cornhole. Purchase lunch from the onsite food truck, explore the new chargers, and enjoy a fun-filled day at the park while learning about the benefits of electric vehicles and sustainable energy solutions. No EV? No problem! Don't miss this opportunity to learn how easy it is to drive an EV in Santa Clara. Help be part of a greener future and celebrate this significant milestone with us!

Visit [SiliconValleyPower.com/EV](https://SiliconValleyPower.com/EV) for more information on electric vehicles, charging stations, and incentives.



## VTA's BART Silicon Valley Phase II Extension Construction Update

VTA BART Silicon Valley Extension Phase II Project will soon begin activities at VTA's Newhall Yard & Maintenance Facility (also known as the West Portal site) adjacent to the future Santa Clara Station. VTA and its contractors are planning to start construction activities beginning in early May 2024. Residents can find more details on the [project website](#). Check the VTA's [notice board](#) for the latest updates to the project. We encourage residents to sign up for community notifications on the project progress from VTA.

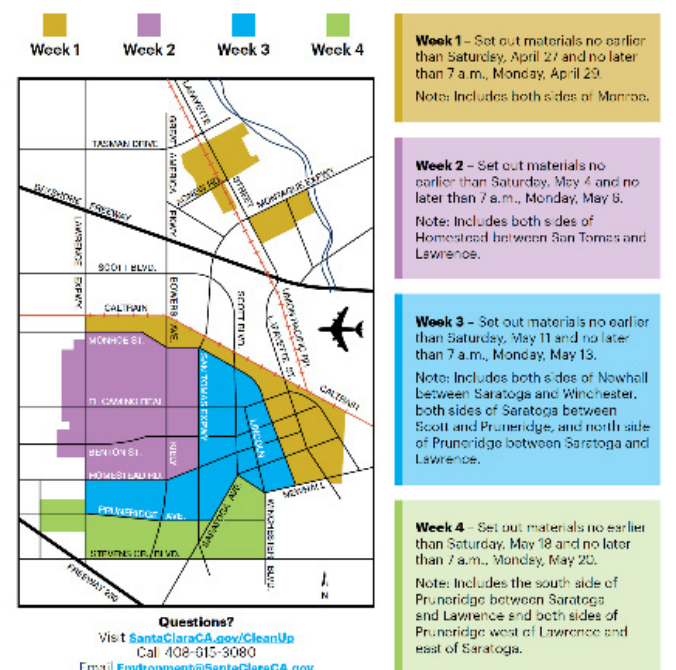


## Annual Cleanup Campaign

Santa Clara's Annual Cleanup Campaign will take place April 29 – May 24. 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 material and made specifically for construction debris. Bags 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 starting April 15. 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/cubic yard. Household hazardous material is **not** accepted.

Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/Cleanup](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/Cleanup) for set-out instructions and a list of accepted and prohibited



## Water & Sewer Award Recipients

Water & Sewer Utilities recognizes two outstanding members of the team who received awards from the American Public Works Association (APWA) Silicon Valley Chapter.

Acting Senior Engineer, Roger Palacpac received the Merit Award, acknowledging his exceptional service leading the City's largest, most complex land development projects. Roger's wide-ranging knowledge includes City standards and policies outside of Water & Sewer, making him a vital contributor to the team.

Office Specialist III, John Biser received the Administrative Excellence Award. John exemplifies customer service at its finest, cheerfully doing his best to resolve every customer question and provide a positive outcome. He delivers the same exceptional level of service to all City teams and departments.

Thank you, Roger and John, for your contributions to the City!

## "Be Strong, Live Long" Health & Wellness Fair

On **Friday, May 17, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**, the City will host the 8th Annual "Be Strong, Live Long" Health and Wellness Fair at Fremont Park, 1303 Fremont St. This event celebrates May's



Water & Sewer Award Recipients



"Be Strong, Live Long" Health & Wellness Fair

Older Americans Month's theme, Powered by Connection, and supports those working to improve their own health while caring for older family and friends. Sponsored by the Santa Clara Women's League and Kaiser Permanente, the Fair will feature over 60 booths specializing in health and wellness resources including free blood pressure checks, information about services for older adults and a barbeque lunch. Visit the [event webpage](#) for more information.

### Drinking Water Week, May 5-11

The American Water Works Association designated Drinking Water Week 40 years ago as a way for water professionals and the communities they serve to recognize the vital role that water plays in our daily lives.

Since then, Drinking Water Week has been celebrated the first full week of May each year to acknowledge the efforts of the nearly 80 administrators, engineers, compliance and field staff who tirelessly work to ensure that Santa Clara has clean, high quality drinking water. The week also reinforces the importance of a safe and reliable supply of potable water to a region's economy and quality of life.

Our dependable source of drinking water is one of the factors that makes Santa Clara a great place to live and work. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/WaterandSewer](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/WaterandSewer) for more information.



### Firehouse Community Fair

You are invited! The Santa Clara Fire Department is hosting its Firehouse Community Fair on **Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** featuring live demonstrations, informational booths, and activity stations. At this free family-friendly community event you'll learn about fire safety, fire prevention, and the many services the SCFD provides. We'll have a kid's water squirting station, a fire engine to check out, the fire museum to peruse, food vendors and more! Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/Fire](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/Fire) for more information.



### Bikeway Planning Studies

Draft Bikeway Planning Study Reports for the following four bikeway planning projects are now available on the City's website for public review and comments. The study corridors include:

- **De La Cruz Boulevard** (Central Expressway to Lafayette Street) and **Coleman Avenue** (De La Cruz Boulevard to Brokaw Road)
- **Walsh Avenue** (Bowers Avenue to Lafayette Street) and **Martin Avenue** (Lafayette Street to De La Cruz Boulevard)
- **Monroe Street** (Lawrence Expressway to San Tomas Expressway)
- **Benton Street** (Dunford Way to Lincoln Street)



The draft reports include proposed concept designs for each corridor, traffic and parking study information, collision analysis, and feedback collected from the community.

Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/BikePedProjects](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/BikePedProjects) to view the draft reports and stay informed about the closing date of the public review and comment period for each study.

### \$5,000 Trade School Scholarships for Income-Qualified Customers

Silicon Valley Power offers a scholarship program designed to help qualified Santa Clara residents learn the skills to earn a livable wage while pursuing high demand careers in the energy industry. Scholarships are available up to \$5,000 for eligible customers currently enrolled in the Financial Rate Assistance Program who meet all program requirements.

Examples of eligible trade school programs include:

- HVAC technician
- Solar PV system installer
- Generation technician
- Lineworker
- Building controls technician
- And more!

Applications are accepted quarterly with deadlines on March 31, June 30, Sept. 30 and Dec. 31 annually. Visit [SiliconValleyPower.com/Scholarship](https://SiliconValleyPower.com/Scholarship) for more information.

# EVENTS & MEETINGS

Find out what's happening in Santa Clara



## Enjoy a Movie in the Park

Join the Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department for our second Sunset Cinema on May 10 at Montague Park, 3595 MacGregor Lane. The animated action-adventure film, *Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie (2023)* will be on the big screen. Pack your favorite movie munchies, lawn chairs, and blankets to enjoy a free movie night under the stars. The movie will start at dusk. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/SunsetCinema](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/SunsetCinema) for more information.



## National Bike Month and Bike to Wherever Days 2024

May is National Bike Month, promoted by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities from coast to coast. National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling and encourage more people to give biking a try. Visit [bikeleague.org](https://bikeleague.org) for more information about National Bike Month.

Description automatically generated Locally, the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) is celebrating National Bike Month with the Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days 2024 on May 16, 17 and 18. On Thursday, May 16, the City will staff an Energizer Station along the San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail at Agnew Road to offer items to bicyclists and celebrate National Bike Month and Bike to Wherever Days 2024. Additionally, SVBC has invited cities across the Bay Area to participate in a friendly challenge called the Bay Area Bike Challenge to log a collective 30,000 miles using Ride with GPS. Visit [bikesiliconvalley.org](https://bikesiliconvalley.org) for more information about Bike to Wherever Days or to take the Bay Area Bike Challenge.



## 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 wildlife. 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 18, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.** Register for the cleanup and help be the solution to water pollution! Visit [cleanacreek.org](https://cleanacreek.org) for more information and to register.



## 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. Register your event by July 26.

1. Determine a location (your front yard, local park)
2. Invite neighbors, friends and family to the event – August 6, 2024 from 6 – 8 p.m.

Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/NationalNightOut](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/NationalNightOut) for more information and to register.



## 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 build your brand awareness. Sponsorship opportunities are available for the annual Art & Wine Festival, Concerts in the Park, Children's Halloween Party, 4th of July All City Picnic and more. Complete the [Online Sponsor Application](#) or contact Kim Castro at [KCastro@SantaClaraCA.gov](mailto:KCastro@SantaClaraCA.gov) for more information.

# CLASSES & ACTIVITIES

Participate in year-round classes and activities for all ages



## May is South Asian and Asian Pacific Heritage Month

Celebrate with the Cultural Commission by decorating the monthly coloring page. This activity offers a creative and interactive way to appreciate the diverse cultures and histories of these communities. Let the coloring fun begin! Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/CulturalCommission](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/CulturalCommission) for more information.

## Spend Your Summer in Santa Clara with Friends

Get ready to flip-flop into an epic summer with the Parks & Recreation Department! Our amazing staff has a sizzling summer lineup that isn't just about fun; it's about discovering hidden talents, making friends, and enjoying the outdoors. Whether you're an artsy soul, cartwheel enthusiast, drama queen in training, or want to refine

your swimming strokes, we have the perfect class or camp just for you. The Summer 2024 Activity Guide is available online and registration is underway. The adventures begin the week of June 3. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses) for more information.



# SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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

## Keep Calm & Carry Yarn—Coming in May

If you love to crochet, knit, embroider, needlepoint or do other handiwork, join us on Wednesdays from 10 – 11:30 a.m. at the Senior Center for this drop-in social group. Bring your work in progress and socialize with others while you work. Studies have shown that creative activities like knitting and crocheting can improve overall brain health, help relieve depression, and reduce anxiety. Crafters of all skill levels are welcome to come build community and make new friends! Contact Jodi Bisely, RN, Health & Wellness Program with questions at [jbisely@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:jbisely@santaclaraca.gov) or 408- 615-3180.

## 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!

- 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

Openings in various fields such as:

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

