

Inside



City of Santa Clara
The Center of What's Possible

See inside for annual Water Quality Report and City Services inserts

Celebrate July 4th



July 4 is America's Independence Day and the City of Santa Clara will celebrate the nation's birthday in the traditional way with an All-City Picnic in Central Park followed by a patriotic Fireworks Extravaganza.

The park is open all day for families to enjoy with carnival games, face painting, jump houses, crafts and City information booths from 12 noon-5 p.m. Community food booths will be open 12 noon-8:30 p.m. and swimming will be available 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the International Swim Center. Live entertainment runs from 3 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. including the popular dance party band Pop Fiction.

The Fireworks Extravaganza begins at 9:30 p.m. For additional information, check the City website SantaClaraCA.gov or call 408-615-3140.

2017-18 Budget Hearing set for June 13

A public hearing on the proposed 2017-18 City budgets is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, in Council Chambers. It is the final opportunity for residents to comment on the Annual Operating and Capital Improvement Project Budgets. The proposed budgets can be read online at SantaClaraCA.gov and printed copies are available at the City libraries and at City Hall, 1500 Warburton Ave.

New playground this summer at Steve Carli Park

A two-year, \$275,000 capital improvement project for Steve Carli Park comes to completion this summer with the installation of new playground equipment.



The community had the opportunity to help decide what type of playground would be best for this neighborhood park located at 1045 Los Padres Blvd. The new equipment provides greater accessibility, improved safety and more recreational play value.

Additional playground upgrades are coming during the next two years for Homeridge Park, Machado Park and Bowers Park.

Mission Branch Library closing for renovations

The Mission Branch Library will close this summer so work can begin on a renovation project that will add functional upgrades while retaining the overall omi look and cozy feel of the building. It will reopen early in 2018 with expanded hours and a full schedule of educational classes and cultural events.



The renovation will include improved lighting and technology, new public study rooms and making restrooms ADA compliant. The Santa

Clara City Library Foundation & Friends will be launching a fundraising campaign to help pay for some of the enhancements and future programming. For information, visit LoveTheLibrary.org.

Mission Branch Library first opened in historic Plaza Park in 1955 as the City's Public Library. It became a branch when Central Park Library opened in 1967.

New Charter Review Committee gets to work

In March, the City Council appointed 13 Santa Clara residents to a newly-constituted Charter Review Committee and asked the group to look at alternative ways to elect the City Council such as by neighborhood districts..

The Committee includes: Hazel Alabado, Markus Bracamonte, Saskia Feain, Hosam Haggag, Mary Elizabeth Hanna-Weir, Chris Horton, Steve Lodge, Rex McIntosh, Jodi Muirhead, Beverly Silva, Tino Silva, Keith Stattenfield and Teresa Sulcer.

Convening another Charter Review Committee was a recommendation in February from the Council's Ethics Committee in response to criticism of the current election method for City Council. The next City Council election will be held in November of 2018.

Sign up for eNotify

Sign up to receive email notices from the City of Santa Clara about events, news and employment opportunities. You decide what topics are of interest to you. Sign up at SantaClaraCA.gov/enotify.

Dear Community,

I recently wrapped up my first year as your City Manager and what an honor it has been! My admiration for the Mayor and Council, City staff and community members has grown exponentially as I look back on all of the things that we have accomplished over the past year and look forward to the projects and activities on the horizon.



Rajeev Batra, City Manager

Balanced Budget

This month, the Council will approve the Operating and Capital Improvement Project budgets for fiscal year 2017-18 – an important decision each year. These budgets determine how all of the resources of the City are deployed to serve our residents, businesses and visitors in order to deliver the best possible quality of life.

Reading a thick budget report may not be at the top of your to-do list, but I do encourage the public to review the proposed budgets. Budget decisions not only affect services in the coming fiscal year, they determine the long range future of this community.

The best example of this is the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Budget that, if approved as proposed, will total \$130.4 million in 2017-18. It's a big amount, but not nearly enough to pay for all of the infrastructure projects that were delayed during the long economic recession. Nor does it include funding for the "wish list" of new projects that Council, residents and staff would like to see added to our community assets. With limited exceptions, this year's CIP budget will focus on completing projects already approved, addressing serious deferred maintenance needs, and replacing technology in order to provide greater productivity or cost savings.

Transparency & communication

Your Mayor and City Council have placed the highest priority on transparency and communication with residents about what is going on in local government. For example, we are the first city to offer the public so many options to watch City Council meetings in real time – in person, of course, but also broadcast on Comcast Channel 15 and live streamed on the City website, Facebook and YouTube. This innovation was recognized with an Award of Distinction from the California Association of Public Information Officers.

The Planning Department has added a new webpage to help residents stay abreast of upcoming community meetings about proposed developments. You'll find it at SantaClaraCA.gov/communitydevelopment and you can also sign up to receive email notification every time a new meeting is posted. It is a great augment to the Development Projects List webpage that provides overview information on every residential, commercial and mixed use project that is in the works.

Appreciation to volunteers and youth

The nation recently celebrated Volunteer Appreciation Week, and it was a good reminder how much we appreciate the residents and people from the business sector who get involved with government and community activities in Santa Clara. Everyone's lives are busy, and to carve out time to engage in the public process or donate hours of your time and talent is an action that warrants praise and thanks.

I especially want to thank and congratulate the young people who have just signed on to or are continuing to serve on the Youth Commission during the 2017-18 school year. High school students already have full schedules of commitments to school, sports, family and other activities, yet these teens stepped up to take on another responsibility. You make us proud!

I look forward to seeing you out and about in the community at the many events that we have planned in the next few months. I'm especially looking forward to the annual All-City Picnic and Fireworks Extravaganza on the 4th of July. Have a happy and safe summer!

'80s nostalgia is theme of book, summer library events for adults

Adult readers are invited to participate in a Santa Clara Community Reads program this summer and enjoy a variety of activities as well as enjoy a fascinating book – *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline.

The book has been described as part quest novel, part love story and part virtual space opera set in the year 2044. It is filled with references to the pop culture of the 1980s and the library is planning several events that cater to '80s nostalgia including vintage arcade and retro console games, classic movies from that decade and an '80s karaoke party. Check the website SCLibrary.org for details.

Virtual Reality Lab opens in Library

In conjunction with the summer reading program for adults, the new Virtual Reality Lab at Central Park Library opens this summer. Residents ages 13 and up can schedule appointments to get hands-on immersive experience with the HTC Vive headset and a few different virtual interactive environments.

The equipment was donated by the Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends and through a grant from AMD. For more information, visit SCLibrary.org.



Placemaking meetings ask residents to imagine "what if..."

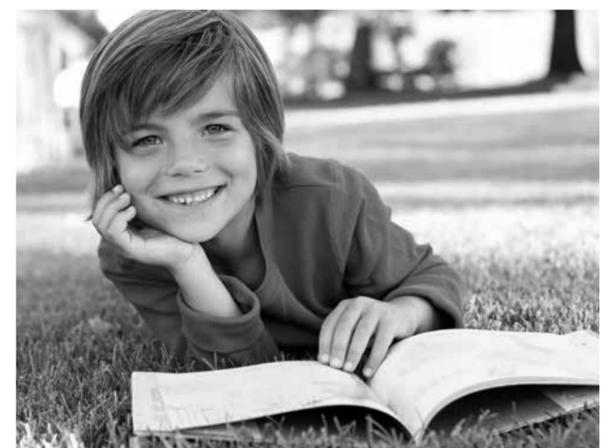
Placemaking is a collaborative process that helps people collectively reimagine and reinvent the public spaces that are at the heart of their community. It is designed to strengthen the feeling of connection to places in everyday life such as neighborhoods, parks, plazas, streets and public buildings.

For the past few months, the City of Santa Clara has held a series of placemaking discussions with the community, assisted by the Project for Public Spaces, a nonprofit organization that has consulted with more than 3,000 cities in the U.S. and abroad. These events are being held in parallel with educational workshops, including land use policy issues and an update on the General Plan.

Placemaking sessions may focus on the vision for a specific development, such as the agrihood proposed for 90 N. Winchester Blvd., or a broader discussion about the downtown or the city of the future.

For further information on Santa Clara's community placemaking process, visit the City website SantaClaraCA.govgov/placemaking. All of the placemaking sessions were recorded and can be viewed on the City's YouTube channel SantaClaraCA.gov/youtube.

Summer Reading Program launches June 10



The annual and very popular Summer Reading Program at the Santa Clara libraries kick offs with two events on Saturday, June 10, featuring entertainment, arts and crafts and the chance to sign up for reading rewards. The parties are scheduled for 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Northside Branch Library and 1-4 p.m. at Central Park Library.

Children from infants through 6th grade who keep a reading log (for pre-readers the log keeps track of books read to them) earn a free paperback book. Teens in grades 7-12 who read three books this summer and keep a reading log earn a \$10 Barnes & Noble gift card. Adults are also encouraged to participate in the adult summer reading program. Check the library webpage, SCLibrary.org, for complete information on events and summer reading activities.

The 2017 Summer Reading Program is generously sponsored by KeyPoint Credit Union and the Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends.

Neighborhoods come together on August 1



On the first Tuesday of every August, thousands of people in communities throughout the U.S. – including the City of Santa Clara – participate in a one night event to make their neighborhoods better places to live.

The goal of National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 1, is for residents to meet their neighbors, deter crime and be more involved with the community. Each neighborhood can choose what type of event to organize, such as a potluck, barbecue, block party, street dance, family games, sports activities, theme parties or any other ideas for getting people together to have fun and make new friends.

Neighborhoods that register by July 18 may invite a member of the Santa Clara Police Department or Santa Clara Fire Department to attend as a guest.

To close a street for a Neighborhood Block Party, an application with a petition signed by all residents affected must be submitted at least

four weeks in advance. Information is available at SantaClaraCA.gov/blockparty.

A permit is required for amplified music. Information about the permit and restrictions is available at SantaClaraCA.gov/amplifiedmusic.

More information about National Night Out is available from the Santa Clara Police Department Crime Prevention Unit, 408-615-4876 or crimeprevention@SantaClaraCA.gov.



National Night Out Registration Form

Tuesday, August 1, 2017 • 6 – 8:30 p.m.

Organizer Name _____

Organizer Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Event Address / Location _____

Number of Participants: Adults _____ Kids _____

Event Type: (circle one) BBQ Potluck Ice Cream Social

Special Requests _____

(Requests cannot be guaranteed, but we will try our best)

Email: kashley@santaclaraca.gov

or mail:
 Santa Clara Police Department
 601 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95050
 Attn: Crime Prevention Unit



The officers and City officials that come to your event do not give prepared speeches or talks on issues in your neighborhood. They can answer some general questions for you, but the intent for National Night Out is for the citizens of Santa Clara and the Police Department to connect on a more social level.

Prepare for next emergency

Santa Clara residents can become better prepared for a major disaster such as an earthquake through two programs offered this summer by the Fire Department.

A three-hour presentation on disaster preparedness will be offered Tuesday, June 6 and Tuesday, Aug. 1, 6-9 p.m. at the Fire Training Center, 1900 Walsh Ave. Speakers will discuss what to do in a life-threatening emergency. Class size is limited and advance registration required by emailing FDCERT@santaclaraca.gov or calling 408-615-4940.

A more intensive 21-hour training is available through the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program. Topics include preparation, utility control, fire suppression, basic medical care, light search and rescue and other subjects designed to help CERT graduates help their families and neighborhoods after a disaster until professional responders can arrive.

This summer, CERT programs begin June 6 and Aug. 1. Cost is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. Sign up online through the City website SantaClaraCA.gov or call 408-615-4940 for information.

Fireworks are illegal!

The laws governing fireworks in Santa Clara are clear – fireworks are illegal. Yet, on July 4, 2016, the City’s Communications Center received 200+ calls related to illegal fireworks.

Do not engage in fireworks. It’s inconsiderate to your neighbors, needlessly scares children and pets, creates an unsafe situation and, as a result, ties up emergency phone lines. It can also be costly – the fine for the first citation for illegal fireworks is \$300 and/or imprisonment for up to six months.

Santa Clara Municipal Code section 15.60.280 states: “The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling, and use of fireworks, including those fireworks classified as Safe and Sane by the California State Fire Marshal, are prohibited.” This includes, but is not limited to, popular bottle rockets, roman candles, firecrackers and sparklers.

Residents are asked to report noise complaints and/or illegal fireworks:

- Injury - call 9-1-1
- Fire - call 9-1-1
- Property damage - call the non-emergency number 408-615-5580
- Sale of fireworks - call the non-emergency number 408-615-5580
- Knowledge of an exact location where fireworks are being set off - call the non-emergency number 408-615-5580



Stay safe this 4th of July and attend a free public fireworks display performed by licensed professionals such as the Fireworks Extravaganza in Central Park.

Summer swim passes now on sale

Summer season pool passes can now be purchased at the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd., for access to the International Swim Center, Montague Swim Center and Warburton Swim Center. All members of the family need to be present when purchasing the pass and each family member will be issued an individual card. Costs for residents range from \$75 for children ages 1-17 to \$180 for a family of six or more.

Noon hour lap swim passes are also available for purchase at the Community Recreation Center. Cost is \$4 per visit if purchased as a pass, compared to \$6 per visit for drop-in swimmers.



Senior Swim at the International Swim Center requires a free membership card that can be obtained at the Community Recreation Center or the Senior Center.

There is still time to sign up for summer swim lessons offered evenings at Montague Swim Center and mornings and evenings at Warburton Swim Center. Classes are formatted in two-week and four-week sessions and Saturday mornings.

If you are looking for a different fun venue for a child's birthday party this summer, consider the International Swim Center which is available on some weekends. Parties include 90 minutes of non-exclusive swim time, followed by 30 minutes for cake, presents and celebration under a party canopy. Cost includes lifejackets and a staff liaison. For information, call 408-615-3140.

The International Swim Center will be closed this summer on these dates for special events and routine maintenance: July 5, July 14-16, July 22, Aug. 3-6.

Affordable Housing Working Group considers residential development

Three City Councilmembers were joined by a Planning Commissioner and representatives of community organizations, affordable housing advocates and residential developers on the Affordable Housing Working Group that met to discuss how many new affordable homes should be built in Santa Clara and for what income levels.

Topics studied include how many affordable units should be required in new housing developments, the pros and cons of impact fees paid by developers of for-sale or rental projects and whether there should be an impact fee paid by developers of non-residential projects such as office, retail, hotel or light industry.

Information can be found on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Scholarships available for Mission College

Students who graduated in 2017 from a high school in Santa Clara, or who are residents of Santa Clara who graduated from another high school this year, are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 scholarship for their first year at Mission College. Deadline for applications is July 1. For information on eligibility requirements and to apply, visit MissionCollege.edu/scholarships.

PAL offers summer sports activities for youth

The Santa Clara Police Activities League (PAL) offers a variety of sports activities for boys and girls ages 5 and up. Summer activities include wrestling and judo, and the eight-week fall soccer season begins in August. For information, visit SantaClaraPAL.org.

New Medic Alert program for at-risk individuals

Individuals who are at risk for wandering emergencies, especially those affected by autism and dementia, can now receive free Medic Alert medical identification and emergency support services through a joint program of the Santa Clara Police Department, Santa Clara Fire Department and the Medic Alert Foundation.

Family members of individuals with Alzheimer's, dementia, autism and/or developmental disorders are encouraged to enroll their loved one at the Police Building, 601 El Camino Real, during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.). Three Medic Alert options are available – bracelet, necklace or shoe tag. All help to ensure that someone wandering is quickly located and safely returned home.

Medic Alert is providing the City of Santa Clara with 24/7 support to help identify who the individual is, what their medical conditions are, where they live and how to get in contact with their caregivers or family members.

Another successful Crab Feed

The annual Santa Clara Fire Fighter's Foundation Crab Feed raised more than \$17,000 this year for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation and brought the total funds raised for this charity by the Foundation to \$103,000.

The Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing burns through educational programs such as "stop, drop and roll" and providing services to those who have been affected by a burn injury. It is named after an 8-year-old girl who was fatally injured in a backyard barbecue accident in Southern California.



Firefighter Dmitry Golovey

Groundbreaking of new park coming this fall

Construction will begin this fall on the new San Tomas & Monroe Neighborhood Park and Community Garden that includes two acres of parkland and a half-acre of community garden space.

The design features a quarter acre multipurpose grass area, two age appropriate playgrounds, two barbecue areas, a barn-themed restroom building, fenced off-leash dog area and off-street parking.

The community garden space includes a covered outdoor classroom, master gardener plots, ADA raised beds, children's plots, individual and group garden plots, cold frame germination area and mini-orchard. The garden program will incorporate several best practices, meets educational criteria and will provide community benefits for residents. A list of residents who would like to be part of the garden will begin this fall. Call 408-615-3140 for more information.

Apply now for fall Citizens' Police Academy

Applications are due no later than June 30 for the fall session of this popular 12-week program that provides residents with a behind the scenes, in-depth look at the Santa Clara Police Department.

The weekly sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays, Aug. 30-Nov. 15, 6-10 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Participants must be at least 21 years of age.

The curriculum and teaching methods are similar to those of the regular Police Academy, with a mixture of lectures, demonstrations, videos, tours and hands-on activities in a safe, controlled environment. Each session is taught by sworn officers or civilian professionals (records specialists, public safety dispatchers, jail service officers, community service officers, etc.).

For information, visit scpd.org or contact Carolyn McDowell at 408-615-4892 or cmcdowell@santaclaraca.gov.



Santa Clara City Council

Lisa M. Gillmor, Mayor

Dominic J. Caserta, Vice Mayor

Debi Davis, Council Member

Pat Kolstad, Council Member

Patricia Mahan, Council Member

Teresa O'Neill, Council Member

Kathy Watanabe, Council Member

Rajeev Batra, City Manager

Rod Diridon, Jr., City Clerk/City Auditor

Brian Doyle, Interim City Attorney

City Goals and Priorities 2015-2017

The City Council priorities are to:

- Promote and enhance economic and housing development
- Ensure fiscal responsibility
- Enhance community sports and recreational assets
- Deliver and enhance high-quality, efficient services and infrastructure
- Balance the emerging economic opportunities with the needs of our community

(The complete Council Goals and Priorities 2015-2017 can be found on the City website. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov and search for "Council Goals.")

City Mission Statement

The mission of the City of Santa Clara is to promote a living and working environment that allows for the best quality of life by serving the community with resourceful, efficient, progressive and professional leadership. - Adopted by Council action, July 25, 1989

Customers rank Silicon Valley Power high for satisfaction, reliability and value

An independent survey of Silicon Valley Power customers asked residents about their satisfaction with their municipal electric utility, what could be improved, and their opinion on several items of interest. The recent poll, conducted by RKS Research of New York, found very high satisfaction levels overall, with reliability and value for the price paid also scoring well.

Residents also expressed a variety of opinions about renewable energy, the level of support for subsidized costs that solar owners avoid, and whether or not they would be getting an electric vehicle within three years.

Overall satisfaction for Silicon Valley Power was graded very high by 83% of those surveyed, compared to a statewide average of 55% for similar electric utilities in California. Reliability came in even higher as 93% of Santa Clara customers rated Silicon Valley Power as "very good" to "excellent" in the poll, while only 73% of users statewide scored their utility as high. Over 77% of respondents rated the value of Silicon Valley Power's electric service for the price paid in the same "very good" to "excellent" categories.

"The results are very encouraging for everyone at Silicon Valley Power."

"While we strive to meet our customers' expectations, we want to learn the community's feelings about new or emerging aspects of the larger electric picture and we also want to know what our customers think we can do better," said Larry Owens, Manager of Customer Services.

"We also learned that less than a third of our customers know that we offer the option of 100% renewable power through the Santa Clara Green Power program," Owens said. "But once told about the program, over half said they'd be interested in signing up."

Support for solar in general remains high. Opinions vary on the continued need for incentives now that solar prices are cost competitive. Three-fourths of respondents said Silicon Valley Power should continue building public charging stations for electric vehicles, and 30% said they were very likely to buy or lease an electric vehicle in the next three years.

Online service and support ranked as the top complaint although 55% were satisfied with Silicon Valley Power's customer account portal. Owens said that Silicon Valley Power and the City Municipal Services Department are addressing online billing concerns.

Council continues work on goals

The City Council held a public goal setting retreat at the end of January to hear from the community about what should be earmarked as the highest priorities for the City for the next two years. Videos of the retreat can be viewed on the City's Facebook page, and a summary of the retreat can be read on the City's website SantaClaraCA.gov.

The Council's Goal Setting Committee continues to meet to whittle down the list of priorities. An additional retreat is expected to be held in July/August for further discussion and public input.

Get acquainted with SCPD

The Santa Clara Police Department has two programs that encourage residents to become better acquainted with local law enforcement. “Chat with the Chief” events will be held 7-8:30 p.m. on Monday, June 5 at Montague Park Building and Monday, Aug. 21 at Northside Branch Library. “Coffee with a Cop” will be held this summer on Friday, Aug. 25, 8-9:30 a.m. at a location to be announced. Check the website scpd.org for details.



Lawrence Station Area Plan wraps up

A detailed plan outlining development goals and guidelines for a 72-acre area northeast of the Lawrence Station in Santa Clara has been adopted by the City Council.

The Lawrence Station Area Plan encourages higher-density residential and other neighborhood transit-oriented uses that take advantage of the area’s central location and proximity to Caltrain. The plan includes specifics on architecture, landscape, streetscape, infrastructure, traffic/parking, parks/open space, and other elements that would be part of a livable urban community.

The Lawrence Station Area is bounded by Kiefer Road, Lawrence Expressway, Central Expressway and Calabazas Creek. Maximum development would include 3,500 residential units, approximately 100,000 square feet of retail space and 6.3 acres of public open space. For more information, visit the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Is your smoke alarm working?

Fires can occur anytime and the key to survival is to get out of the home quickly. Working smoke alarms reduce your risk of dying in a home fire by 50%!

Smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom, in all hallways leading to the bedrooms and on each floor of the house. Smoke detectors should be tested each month to make sure they are ready to protect you and your family. They should be replaced every 10 years regardless of the make or model.

Take time now to develop a fire escape plan that includes two ways out of each sleeping room and a safe meeting place outside the house where everyone can meet once they escape. Make sure everyone in the family knows that if the smoke alarm goes off, it is important to get out fast. Crawl low to the ground under the smoke. Once you are out of the house, stay out.

For more information on smoke alarms, contact the Fire Department at 408-615-4970.

Summer is time for new adventure

Summer is a great time to try something new and programs from Santa Clara’s Parks & Recreation Department offer a wide variety of opportunities to explore a new interest and make new friends.

The Fall Activity Guide will go online Aug. 16 at SantaClaraCA.gov/ParksandRec.

Summer classes and camps begin the week of June 12 and include dance, music, sports, gymnastics, ceramics, specialty classes and fun filled camps for all groups. Before and after care is available for some camps. Especially popular are summer adult fitness classes such as yoga, Zumba®, kickboxing, pilates, sculpting, Bombay Jam® and more. Sign up for a whole session or purchase a drop-in pass for the class of your choice.

View the Summer Recreation Activity Guide online at SantaClaraCA.gov/ParksAndRec. Printed copies of the Activity Guide are available at the Community Recreation Center, the Teen Center, the Youth Activity Center, Senior Center, City Hall and City libraries.

Stadium Authority budget for 2017-18 approved

The City Council, meeting as the Santa Clara Stadium Authority, approved the operating, debt service and capital budget for fiscal year 2017-18 at a public hearing in March.

The \$18.9 million operating budget includes \$3 million that is paid to the City of Santa Clara General Fund from performance rent, senior and youth fees, and ground rent revenues. The General Fund pays for core City services such as police, fire, library, parks, streets, recreation, etc.

More detail about the Stadium Authority budget can be found on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Santa Clara good place to buy a “forever” home

An analysis of 509 cities throughout the U.S. by the consumer information website GoodCall.com to find the communities that are the best places to buy a “forever” home rated the City of Santa Clara as the 33rd best in the nation.

Factors considered included growing home values, growing population, low unemployment and crime rates, and an educated populace.

Volunteer at Ulistac

Work sessions are held twice a month at Ulistac Natural Area, the unique 40-acre open space that showcases the natural plant habitats and ecosystems of Santa Clara Valley. Volunteers are welcome the first Saturday of the month and the third Sunday of the month, 9 a.m.-12 noon during the summer months. Children can participate but if they are under the age of 14 must have an adult remain with them during the session. Gloves and tools are provided but volunteers should bring their own water and sunscreen.

Volunteer efforts at Ulistac are especially important this year because a \$206,000 grant from the Santa Clara Valley Water District is tied to achieving 6,500 of volunteer support by May, 2018. The grant supports the restoration of five riparian areas, enhanced plantings in six areas, and the upgrade of two ramps leading up to the Guadalupe River trail. For information, visit Ulistac.org.



Santa Clara pledges to be an “age friendly” city

The City of Santa Clara is participating in a countywide collaboration in support of the World Health Organization’s Age Friendly City Initiative. An age-friendly community is one that has convenient public transportation options, housing that is affordable and accessible, parks and outdoor spaces with amenities for older adults, quality health services, and engaging social activities and events for people of all ages.

The City of Santa Clara will conduct a senior needs assessment this fall to gauge how well it is doing in meeting the needs of older residents.



Summer exhibits at Triton Museum of Art

Four very different exhibitions will be on display this summer at the Triton Museum of Art. More information on each is available at TritonMuseum.org.

“The Ray Ashley Collection: 35 Years of South Bay Art” continues through July 30 and celebrates the art patron who passed away in November, 2016.

“Seeing the Unseen” features work created by artists who are blind and is part of the museum’s theme for 2017 – ArtsAble: Finding Vision and Voice for the Disabled. It continues through Aug. 13.



More than 300 paintings, collage and assemblage artworks will be part of an installation by artist Ketra Oberlander who began painting at age 40 after losing her sight to a rare genetic disorder. It will be available through Aug. 13.

A solo exhibit of works by Suhas Bhujbal, winner of the “Best of Show” award in last year’s Triton Museum of Art Statewide 2D Competition & Exhibition, will be open through Aug. 13.

Don’t forget de Saisset

The de Saisset Museum on the Santa Clara University campus is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. year-round, with occasional closures for special events and installations. It houses a collection of more than 12,500 objects and hosts 10-15 temporary exhibitions each year in addition to its permanent California History display. And it’s free admission to everyone!

For information on current and future exhibits and other educational programs, visit SCU.edu/desaisset.

Groundbreaking coming soon for new Sports Park

The City Council approval of the architectural design for the new Reed & Grant Streets Sports Park moved the project one step closer to construction groundbreaking. The City is issuing a Request for Proposal from construction companies in July with the goal of getting it underway later this year. The new facility is tentatively scheduled to open in 2019.

The Sports Park will include five lighted soccer fields (with multiple configurations), off street parking, a multipurpose recreation building, children’s playground with seating and picnic area, team gathering and spectator viewing areas and a restroom building. The project is funded by the City’s Capital Improvement funds and new housing developer Mitigation Fee Act funds.



Adopt-a-Spot to keep City clean, beautiful

Have you met Superheroes Clean-Streets Karin and Litter-Free Lina? Look for them at large public events in the Santa Clara promoting the City’s Adopt-a-Spot program.

Over the past two years, 12 volunteer groups have conducted 35 clean-up events in public spaces in Santa Clara, picking up 578 pounds of litter that would have otherwise ended up polluting local creeks or blighting public spaces. The most common items found in litter? Cigarette butts, food wrappers and disposable cups.

Community groups, businesses, faith organizations, schools and networks of family and friends are invited to help keep Santa Clara clean and beautiful through the Adopt-a-Spot program. Volunteers pick a location such as their block, a section of sidewalk or trail, a traffic island, a bus stop or a City-owned lot or alley and sign up for a one-year commitment to pick up litter. You set your own schedule of when and how frequently (minimum of four times per year).

The City provides training and equipment such as safety vests, gloves, facemasks, trash buckets and trash grabbers. Before each clean-up event, volunteers arrange for what tools need to be borrowed and garbage pick up when they’re done. For information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov.



Activities for all ages this summer

Farmers Market Saturdays

The Downtown Santa Clara Farmers Market is in full swing every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jackson Street between Homestead and Benton. It features fresh fruits and vegetables from local fields and orchards as well as baked goods and prepared foods. During the summer, look for peaches, plums, apricots, melons and a wide assortment of berries. Bring your own bags! For information, call 510-745-7100.

Thursday Night Socials Thursdays

Adults are invited to hang out in Central Studio at the Central Park Library every Thursday evening, starting at 7 p.m. Each week has a different focus – interactive puzzle party on the first Thursday of the month, tabletop gaming social on the second Thursday, doodling on the third Thursday, and knitting social on the fourth Thursday. For details, visit SCLibrary.org.

International Grand Prix Swim Meet June 1-4

Spectator tickets were still available at press time for this annual event that brings world class swimmers to the Santa Clara International Swim Center. For tickets, visit teamunify.com.

“Measure for Measure” Wednesday-Saturday, June 2-10

Enjoy Santa Clara University’s production of William Shakespeare’s classic at the Louis B. Mayer Theatre. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. For tickets, visit SCU.edu.



Fusion Concert Friday, June 9

The Santa Clara University Concert Choir & Chamber Singers, Wind Symphony and Orchestra join forces for a concert at 7:30 p.m. in Mission Santa Clara. For details, visit SCU.edu.



Silicon Valley BBQ Championship Friday-Saturday, June 23-24

Enjoy a variety of barbecue-style food and samples, live music, arts/crafts vendors, beer and wine while more than 60 professional teams compete in four barbecue categories: pork ribs, pulled pork, chicken thighs and brisket. The Central Park event is the second largest barbecue championship on the West Coast. Hours are 4-10 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m.-8 p.m. on Saturday. Proceeds support community projects in Santa Clara. For information, visit SVBBQ.com or call 408-615-3140.

Harris-Lass Museum Open House Sunday, June 11

Family craft activities, music and special tours of the inside of the historic Harris-Lass House will be held 1-4 p.m. Outdoor displays include linens, lace and hand-painted porcelain provided by the Sunnyvale Lace Museum and Santa Clara Valley Porcelain Artists. Refreshments include lemonade and strawberry shortcake.

The Museum, located at 1889 Market St., will also be open this summer for docent led tours between 12 noon and 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, Sunday, July 9, and Saturday, July 22. For information, visit HarrisLass.org.

Family Fun Nights Mondays, June 12-July 17

Free family entertainment including children’s musicians, juggling, variety and multicultural music and dance as part of the Library’s Summer Reading program. Shows begin at 7 p.m. at the Central Park Pavilion. For more information, visit SCLibrary.org.

Worm Workshop Saturday, June 17

Learn how to turn your food scraps into a beneficial soil amendment (known as the gardener’s “black gold”) at this free workshop, 10 a.m.-12 noon at the Machado Park Building, 3360 Cabrillo Ave. Information includes how to build, maintain and troubleshoot a worm bin that is used in vermicomposting. Open to all levels, beginners to advanced. To register, visit the Compost Page at ReduceWaste.org.

Book Sales Saturday, June 17, July 15, Aug. 19

The Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends sells approximately 9,000 donated books, DVDs, CDs, VHS tapes, cassettes and vinyl records each month to raise thousands of dollars to support the library. Find a great purchase for your collection at the monthly sale held 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Central Park Library or shop online by visiting LoveTheLibrary.org and follow the link to its virtual store on Amazon. Donations can be brought anytime to Central Park Library during its regular hours and a donation receipt is available.

Pathway to Citizenship Workshops Mondays, June 19, July 17, Aug. 21

Get help preparing your citizenship application at these free workshops held 5-7:30 p.m. at Central Park Library. Other topics include the naturalization legal process, eligibility requirements, interview tips and guidance on how to file a USCIS fee waiver or reduced fee request. Register by phone 408-227-0255, ext. 17, 18 or 21 or email sanjoseimmigration@rescue.org.

For more information on naturalization visit the City’s Pathway to Citizenship webpage SantaClaraCA.gov/PathwayToCitizenship or Rescue.org/norcalimmigration.

Santa Clara Lawn Bowls Club invites you



Members of the Santa Clara Lawn Bowls Club invites residents to try out this unique outdoor sport at the lawn bowl green in Central Park. The game is easy to learn but also challenging. Club members strive for a light-hearted, sociable atmosphere that is welcoming to all. Serious competition is also available at tournaments in the Bay Area. Annual fee for club membership is \$40 and provides 400 hours of fun. For more information, visit SantaClaraLawnBowls.org or call Jerry at 408-499-5423.

Santa Clara is the Center of What's Possible

Santa Clara Vanguard Pacific Procession Monday, June 26

See the award-winning Vanguard Music and Performing Arts perform in its hometown during its 50th anniversary season. The show at Santa Clara High School will feature Santa Clara Vanguard, Vanguard Cadets and special guest the Phantom Regiment from Rockford, Illinois. Tickets can be purchased at SCVanguard.org.

Antiques Appraisal Thursday, July 11

Bring your treasures to the Harris Lass Museum for appraisal by a local antiques expert during a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For ticket information, visit HarrisLass.org.

Street Dance Friday, Aug. 4

Dance to the beat of The Houserockers 6-9:30 p.m. on Jackson Street between Homestead Road and Benton Street. Admission is free with refreshments available for purchase.



Clear the Shelter Pet Adoption Saturday, Aug. 19

The Animal Care Center in Santa Clara is participating in NBC Bay Area's annual one-day pet adoption drive with the goal of finding loving homes for all animals at the shelter. Adoption fees are waived for the day. To learn more, visit SVACA.com or visit the Center, 3370 Thomas Rd.



Sister Cities Barbecue Sunday, Aug. 27

The 36th annual barbecue benefitting the Santa Clara Sister Cities Association is scheduled for 1 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 1680 Martin Ave. For information, email president@santaclarasistercities.org.

Ice Cream Social Wednesday, Aug. 30

Make your own sundae at a delicious ice cream and toppings bar to enjoy while learning more about the programs and activities available at the Santa Clara Senior Center. The event at the Senior Center is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$1 for Santa Clara seniors (age 50+) and \$2 for other ice cream lovers.



Homebuyers Workshop Tuesday, Aug. 8

Residents interested in learning more about purchasing a Below Market Purchase (BMP) home in Santa Clara are invited to this workshop that includes information about BMP requirements and the application process. It will be held at Central Park Library, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Advance registration required at HousingTrustSV.org/homebuyer-calendar.

City-wide Garage Sale Saturday, Aug. 12

Registration opens July 10 for Santa Clara residents who want to get rid of clutter and earn some cash. The City publicizes locations of participating households and provides tips on how to have a successful sale. For information visit SantaClaraCA.gov, email environment@SantaClaraCA.gov or call 408-615-3080.

Pour for Paws Friday, Sept. 8

An elegant, fun, interactive evening at Big Dog Vineyards in Milpitas will raise funds to benefit shelter animals. Bring the dog from 6-9 p.m. and enjoy award-winning wines, delicious food, live auction and prize drawings. For information, visit SVACA.com.

Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 16-17

Mark your calendars now for this annual big event featuring 175 artist booths, Kids Kingdom, international foods, fine wines, shaded craft beer garden and live entertainment on multiple stages. Interested artists should contact Robin Shaddle at RShaddle@SantaClaraCA.gov and interested companies or community sponsors should contact Kevin Cornelius at KCorneilius@SantaClaraCA.gov. Information on the festival can be found at SantaClaraArtandWine.com or call 408-615-3140.

Summer Concerts in Central Park

Friday evening performances are 6:30-8 p.m. and Sunday afternoon concerts are 2:30-4 p.m.
Sponsored by the Cultural Commission.

Fri., June 16

Private Label Band, high energy rock/dance music

Fri., July 7

Orchestra Latin Heat, salsa band



Sun., July 16

Johnny Neri Band, rock/soul dance band

Fri., July 21

Rockin' Blues Express, blues, swing, R&B, old-time rock

Sun., July 30

The Lyratones, swing/Latin dance orchestra



Sun., Aug. 13

Daze on the Green, classic rock

Fri., Aug. 18

The Hitmen, high energy dance music



Summer City Holiday

City offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4, for Independence Day.

Regular Garbage, Clean Green, Recycling collection day.

Santa Clara’s power plant provides local energy, community benefits

Locally sourced electricity from a power plant owned by Silicon Valley Power is providing many benefits to the community. The Donald Von Raesfeld (DVR) natural gas facility generates up to 147 megawatts of power while using a modern combined-cycle technique that boosts efficiencies and limits emissions. In fact, nitrous oxide measurements show that the exhaust from DVR is actually cleaner than the air that it takes in during certain parts of the day.

DVR’s output has another significant advantage: it helps keep rates low by avoiding the use of expensive transmission lines to import electricity from outside Santa Clara, a cost that has risen 500% in the last 10 years. The local aspect also means that the 18 skilled jobs created at DVR when it went online in 2005 remain in the City.

Reliability benefits are most prominent during the hottest days of the year, as DVR operates near its peak capacity and reduces the dependence on power coming from outside the City. By reducing the load on external transmission lines, this protects against the “brown-outs” or shortages in the power supply caused by the region’s transmission lines getting overloaded.

DVR has generated more 7 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity since 2005. Considering that the average home here uses about 5,400 kilowatt-hours per year, those 7 billion kilowatt-hours could power 108,000 homes per year for each of its 12 years of operation.



DVR is part of a portfolio of numerous sources of energy utilized by Silicon Valley Power, including hydroelectric, wind, solar, geothermal, landfill gas and coal resources. (Silicon Valley Power will cease the use of coal for power on Dec. 31, 2017.) A map of Silicon Valley Power resources can be seen at SiliconValleyPower.com/powermix.

The investment in DVR also pays off when excess power from the plant is sold to other utilities. While local customers have priority for DVR’s energy, if Silicon Valley Power-owned sources are generating more than enough power from cheaper or greener resources to meet local demand, power from DVR can be sold on the wholesale market.

A surprise benefactor of the DVR power plant has been the endangered Checkerspot butterfly, which finds its habitat in the foothills of southern Santa Clara County. Federal wildlife and environmental agencies required Santa Clara to purchase and preserve a plot of open space to offset emissions from DVR. Nitrogen produced by cars, planes and the power plant is blown southward toward the Coyote foothills, creating a problem for a native plants essential to the life cycle of this butterfly. Silicon Valley Power purchased 40 acres of butterfly habitat and donated it to the Silicon Valley Land Conservancy for permanent protection.

Silicon Valley Power works hard to keep rates low and reliability high, with DVR’s local benefits adding significant value to Silicon Valley Power’s service.

Intel and California’s Great America go all in with Santa Clara Green Power!

2017 is turning out to be the year of “green” for Santa Clara businesses! Local sustainability champion, Intel Corporation, and Santa Clara’s premier amusement park, California’s Great America, have both joined Santa Clara Green Power – a renewable energy program offered by Silicon Valley Power that allows Santa Clara businesses and residents to lower their carbon footprint by purchasing 100% clean solar and wind energy.

This year, Intel Corporation made the largest single purchase in Santa Clara Green Power’s history – equivalent to the output of 62 large-scale, industrial wind turbines! As the largest corporate purchaser of green power in the nation, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Intel’s purchase has nearly doubled the previous year’s usage of the Santa Clara Green Power program.

City welcomes green business leaders to nationally recognized program that collectively reduces greenhouse gas emissions and creates a better world.

Great America’s commitment to 100% wind energy makes them one of the top five clean energy purchasers in Santa Clara Green Power, a member of the U.S. EPA’s Green Power Partnership’s Leadership Club, and the first amusement park of its kind in northern California to choose 100% clean electricity. Its 2017 clean energy purchase is equivalent to the output of four large-scale, industrial wind turbines.

Both Intel and Great America join the growing circle of large businesses in Santa Clara that are showcasing their support for clean energy and meeting their sustainability goals with Santa Clara Green Power. Other participants include the City of Santa Clara, Applied Materials and Santa Clara University. In addition, more than 70 small businesses and 4,000 households are purchasing 100% renewable energy through Santa Clara Green Power to reduce their impact on the environment. Learn more by visiting SiliconValleyPower.com/green.

“Dean of City Managers” sparked change in Santa Clara’s electric utility business

Donald Von Raesfeld was the city manager for the City of Santa Clara from 1962 to 1986 and is credited with growing the City’s electric utility from a distribution-only utility to a generating utility. He was a founder of the Northern California Power Association, which united a dozen municipal utilities like Silicon Valley Power, Palo Alto and Alameda to invest together in power-generation projects. His foresight allowed the City’s electric utility to gain more control over the supply and cost of electricity as well as enhanced the reliability of its local service.



Von Raesfeld was the catalyst for Santa Clara to adopt renewable energy resources in the 1970s and ‘80s and he helped shape local and national power policies as a member of the American Public Power Association’s Board of Directors. His leadership was acknowledged when the City’s modern natural gas power generating facility was named the Donald Von Raesfeld Power Plant when it started operation in 2005.

Keep the kids entertained this summer

The City of Santa Clara offers many free programs for children and teens during the summer months to keep them busy, learning, and having fun. In addition to programs at the library and through recreation, consider these opportunities:



Discover & Go is a virtual museum pass program for Santa Clara City Library cardholders. It allows you to reserve admission passes to more than 50 museums and cultural attractions in the Bay Area such as the Pacific Pinball Museum, the Oakland Zoo, and the Asian Art Museum.

Fire Station Tours provide families with a unique opportunity to meet firefighters, paramedics and emergency medical technicians, learn more about what they do, and see some of the equipment used to keep Santa Clara safe. Groups of fewer than five people can stop by any of the City's Fire Stations anytime between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. If the fire crew is not busy, they will give you a guided tour of the fire station. Larger groups of residents can be accommodated if arranged in advance. Request a tour online at SantaClaraCA.gov. Don't forget to add a stop at the Santa Clara Fire Museum, 1900 Walsh Ave. to see tools and equipment used by Santa Clara firefighters since the department was started 1855. For information, visit SantaClaraFireMuseum.org.

Park Passport is an idea for a family adventure close to home. Create your own passport of Santa Clara's parks and playgrounds and make an effort to visit each at least once this summer. Check them off one at a time and rate your favorites. The City Services insert in this newspaper contains a list of all Santa Clara parks and a map of park locations and details on amenities available at each is on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Visit public art in Santa Clara. There are more than a dozen statues, murals and other public art installations located throughout Santa Clara that could be inspiration for children exploring their own artistic talents. The "Art in Santa Clara" story map on the City website, SantaClaraCA.gov, provides location and background on each piece.



Junior Theatre teaches more than performance skills

Since its first production in 1969, Santa Clara's theatre program for children and teens (now called the Roberta Jones Junior Theatre in honor of its founder) has given thousands of local young people the opportunity to experience stage performance.



A recent performance of "The Music Man" at Roberta Jones Junior Theatre

And although the musical productions are always high quality family entertainment, the real achievement is the lasting impact the junior theatre has on its participants – lifelong friendships, respect for making commitments and fulfilling responsibilities, and confidence from feeling like a valued member of a team, according to Kevin Cornelius of the City's Park and Recreation Department who manages the program.

Kevin is very familiar with Roberta Jones Junior Theatre since he enrolled as a participant from ages 10 to 18 and has staffed the program for the past 16 years.

"The theatre has a very inclusive, positive atmosphere – every child can find a safe and welcoming home here," he said. "Our philosophy is that everyone is equal, no matter what role or production job they have."

Every child who auditions or signs up to be part of the backstage crew (such as set changes, lighting and sound cues) is accepted. However, Kevin cautions it is a significant time commitment that could conflict with sports, music or dance lessons, or other activities. "We encourage the kids to not overextend themselves," he said, "and many families only enroll in the summer programs when schedules are easier."

Roberta Jones Junior Theater presents two to six productions a year of family-oriented musicals. The performances are often sell-outs. Each production is supported by the Junior Theatre staff, which often includes part-time high school and college students. Parents and community volunteers also help out with set construction, costumes, ushering and other important tasks.

The program is named after Roberta Jones who was a founder of a community theater group now called Santa Clara Players and then led the establishment of a children's theater group. In honor of her 31 years of service to the youth of Santa Clara, the program was named after her.

"Roberta was a warm and kind teacher who made each child feel special and valuable," said Kevin. "We've worked hard to continue that tradition."

Two musicals this summer

Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr. is scheduled for performances on Friday, June 9 at 7 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, June 10-11, at 2 p.m. Next up is a junior version of the Broadway hit Disney's The Lion King at the Mission City Center for Performing Arts on July 25, 26, 27 at 7 p.m. and July 26 and 27 at 11:30 a.m. Check RJJT.org for audition dates. No experience is necessary and grants are available.

There is also a variety of creative dramatics, technical theatre and dance classes for children ages 4-18 available this summer.

For information on how to register or purchase performance tickets, visit RJJT.org or contact Kevin at kcornelius@santaclaraca.gov or 408-615-3161.



Kevin Cornelius as the Mad Hatter

Local history/ genealogy programs abound this summer

A full schedule of free classes is planned this summer at Central Park Library to help individuals work on exploring their family history. For more information, visit SCLibrary.org or call 408-615-2909.

DNA and Genealogy Research

Tuesday, June 6, 2-4 p.m. Repeats on Tuesday, Aug. 8.

Getting Started with Genealogy

Mondays, June 19 and June 26, 1-4 p.m. Registration required at scchgs.org.

Reclaim the Records

Tuesday, June 20, 7-8:30 p.m.

Colonial Conflicts: Researching Your Veteran

Thursday, June 22, 10:15-11:45 a.m.

German Genealogy Research Group

Tuesday, June 27, 12 noon-2 p.m. Also meets July 28 and Aug. 22

Census 101: An Introduction to Searching U.S. Federal and State Censuses

Monday, July 17, 1-4:30 p.m. Registration required at scchgs.org.

Wolfe & Higgins: Master Architects of the Spanish Revival

Tuesday, July 18, 7-8:30 p.m.

The American Revolution: Researching Your Veteran

Thursday, July 27, 10:15-11:45 a.m.

The U.S. Civil War: Researching Your Veteran

Thursday, Aug. 24, 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Online “tool shed” for sustainable landscape information

Updating your landscape? Looking for inspiration and resources? [Bay Area EcoGardens.org](http://BayAreaEcoGardens.org) is a website sponsored by a coalition of local agencies to educate the public on sustainable landscape practices. Plant galleries, compost information, fact sheets, “how to” videos, along with landscape design ideas and a workshop/event calendar are among the many resources available.

Cooling centers open when temperatures soar

When the temperatures soar to dangerous levels during the summer months, the City of Santa Clara will open cooling centers to give residents a place to get out of the heat. Cooling centers will open during the normal hours of operation of Central Park Library, Northside Branch Library, Senior Center, City Hall Cafeteria and the Community Recreation Center. Look for announcements about cooling centers on the City’s website, SantaClaraCA.gov.

Family donation creates new library reading nook

A donation from former Santa Clara Mayor Judy Nadler and her husband, Jerry Nadler, has created Arielle’s Reading Corner in the Central Park Library, a cozy reading nook in the children’s area dedicated to the family’s late daughter, Arielle.

Surrounded by colorful books, the nook contains a comfortable chair big enough for a parent and child to share for reading together. It is located by the Arielle Nadler Caldecott Collection, award-winning picture books, also donated by the Nadlers a few years ago.

The couple was honored by the Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends at its annual Librarypalooza in January for their ongoing support of the Library and its programs.



Safe ways to buy and sell goods online

The use of online marketplaces, such as Craigslist or NextDoor, to buy and sell personal property is increasingly popular. To stay safe when conducting a transaction, the Santa Clara Police Department recommends the following:

- Choose to use an anonymous email address when posting a new advertisement.
- Do not meet the buyer/seller alone.
- Arrange a public meeting, during daylight hours, in a location with lots of foot traffic and/or surveillance cameras. For example, if you are selling a desk, meet the prospective buyer at a local coffee shop before inviting the buyer to your home to see the item. If you do not feel comfortable, do not invite the person to your home.
- Accept or pay for the item with cash only. Do not accept or pay with a cashier’s check, money order or personal check.

Conducting transactions with local residents helps to rule out a number of scams. Dealing with individuals from other states or countries and using methods of payment other than cash, have the potential to expose you to fraud and gives the other party anonymity, which limits the actions you can take against them.

If you come across a post that you believe is a scam, flag it with the online marketplace so it can be investigated.



Most at risk of becoming ill because of overheating include senior over age 75, babies and young children, people with health conditions and those who engage in vigorous physical activity.

It is important to drink plenty of water, even if you don’t feel thirsty and to keep your body cool by staying out of the sun and wearing loose fitting clothing.

Worker Retention Ordinance now in effect

Employees of janitorial, security and food services businesses in Santa Clara have additional job security protection following the City Council's approval of a Worker Retention Ordinance. If there is a contractor change, these workers must now be retained for at least three months. More information about this ordinance is available on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov/workerretention.

More resources available to help parents

A Parent Resource Center is now open to help parents with a variety of resources and educational programs. It is located at 1840 Benton St., Building C and is a cooperative venture between the Santa Clara Unified School District and Santa Clara Adult Education.

In addition to parent education programs, Center services include classes for parents to improve their career skills and English language skills. There is also information and referrals to other community resources related to health care, homelessness, immigration and other family-related issues.

Other resources for parents of young children are available on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov/Oto6 including information on early learning, child development, health and nutrition and childcare providers.

Corrected dates for Loan Committee

The Housing Rehabilitation Loan Committee has revised its meeting schedule from the dates listed in the City Calender. It will have two additional meetings this year: Aug. 10 and Nov. 9, 8 a.m. in the City Manager's Staff Conference Room.

This Committee reviews proposals from low to moderate income homeowners for City loans or grants for home improvements.

Therapeutic Recreation Services

The Parks and Recreation Department Therapeutic Recreation Services addresses the recreational and social needs of individuals who have disabilities with programs such as aquatics, dance, fitness and social clubs. These purposeful activities are planned to develop and enhance social skills, communication, personal growth, and focus on one's abilities rather than disabilities.

For example, this summer Therapeutic Recreation programs include an Adult Social Club, Saturday morning playgroups for children and Getting Fit classes designed to accommodate those with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Sister city students come to Santa Clara

A delegation of middle and high school students from Izumo, Japan visited Santa Clara this spring to learn more about its sister city. The youth stayed with local families.

Izumo became a sister city to Santa Clara in 1986. Since then hundreds of American and Japanese students have participated in cultural exchange programs designed to enrich their lives while building goodwill and global understanding.



In June, Santa Clara students will visit Izumo for 7-10 days, staying at the home of the Izumo students. They will report on their trip to the City Council this fall.

Izumo is one of three Sister City relationships held by Santa Clara. The other two are with Coimbra, Portugal and Limerick, Ireland. Cultural exchanges are also held with these communities. For more information on the student exchange program and hosting opportunities, visit SantaClaraSisterCities.org.

Cool it this summer with money-saving energy efficiency tips

Summertime can mean some great warm weather, but keeping your home cool and comfortable can lead to higher energy bills. Silicon Valley Power has some tips on how to keep cool while holding electric costs down.

Air conditioning can be expensive, so it's smart to keep the thermostat between 76 and 78 degrees during the day, and to turn it off at night and before leaving home. A portable fan or ceiling fan may be an inexpensive alternative to beat the heat by promoting evaporation from your skin. Turn the fan off when you leave the room, since fans cool people, not rooms. The key to staying comfortable is to keep the air moving around you.

Some other suggestions on energy efficiency in the summer:

- Santa Clara has the perfect climate to let Mother Nature cool your house. Open windows at night to let in cool air, then close windows and curtains in the morning to trap it inside and also block sunlight.
- Using a whole house fan at night removes warm air from the living space, pulls cooler air from the outside into the interior of the home and costs only 1 to 7 cents an hour to operate. Both central air conditioners and window air conditioning units can average close to 18 cents an hour to operate.
- Attic insulation can help maintain temperatures in your home, not only helping it stay cool in summer but also retaining heat in winter.
- An attic fan removes hot air from your attic and replaces it with cool air from outside. It can be effective in managing the temperature in your home as long as the attic is sealed off from the rest of your home and especially if your attic is insulated, according to www.energystar.gov.
- Replace incandescent lights with LED bulbs. Incandescent bulbs release up to 90% of their energy as heat, not light, while LEDs release very little heat, use at least 75% less energy and last 25 times longer.
- Use your lights and TV wisely. Turn off the lights and TV when you're not in the room, and turn down the lights when you watch TV.
- Variable-speed swimming pool filtration pumps are 20% to 70% more efficient than a two-speed or one-speed pool pump. This results in significant energy and cost savings throughout the year.



Rebates on the purchase of ceiling fans are available for customers of Silicon Valley Power.

Visit SiliconValleyPower.com for information on energy efficiency and find links to valuable rebates, or call 408-244-SAVE (7283) or email cutcosts@SiliconValleyPower.com.

STEM Central draws huge crowd to library



STEM Central, the follow up event to last year's Innovation STEM Bowl, drew another huge crowd of 7,000 to Central Library on April 29 to learn more about the latest in science, technology, engineering and math.

Visitors got an up-close look at cutting edge technology like virtual reality headsets, electric skateboards and a guitar that teaches you to play your favorite songs. Families dove into hands-on activities throughout the library, such as building circuits, launching rockets and driving a model of a Mars rover.

The program also included STEM-related panels with speakers from Stanford University, U.C.Berkeley, AMD and SETI, as well as NASA Astronaut Megan McArthur who spoke about the future of space exploration. The event was sponsored in part by the Yahoo Employee Foundation.



Silicon Valley Power honored for business efficiency efforts

Silicon Valley Power, the City's municipal electric utility, won the 2017 Resource Efficiency & Community Service Award from the California Municipal Utilities Association for its successful program to help small business customers install energy efficient products and lower their energy bills.

The program was started three years ago and targeted businesses with a demand of 200 kilowatts or less. It provided the firms with a free "snapshot" energy audit with recommendations for energy-saving that could be installed at no cost by a third-party contractor. The program was able to save almost two million kilowatt-hours of energy in the first year.

Crisis Text Line is here to help

A new service for people in a crisis situation is now available. The Crisis Text Line provides anyone, in any type of crisis, at any location in the U.S., access to free 24/7 support from a live, trained crisis counselor.

Individuals who are feeling in need of help just text 741741. A crisis situation might be suicidal thoughts, grief, depression, stress/anxiety, eating disorder, bullying, self-harm, isolation/loneliness, relationship issues or physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Anyone in immediate danger should continue to call 9-1-1 for emergency response. For further information, visit the Police Department website scpd.org.

**Text to 741741
for free, 24/7
confidential help**

Share your skills with the community

Sell snacks at the Senior Center, set up crafts in the library, staff a social media booth at community events, clean headstones at the cemetery, – these are just a few of the dozens of volunteer opportunities available for residents who would like to offer the City their time and talents.

The City's Human Resources Department maintains a database of volunteers and volunteer opportunities. All information collected is confidential and not shared with any other organization.

To learn more about how to volunteer to support a City program, visit the website SantaClaraCA.gov/volunteer.

Lead Santa Clara into the future!

Enroll in Leadership Santa Clara 2018

Santa Clara residents, business owners and employees of local businesses are invited to learn more about their community and prepare for taking on leadership roles in government, neighborhood, civic and nonprofit organizations.

Sessions generally meet monthly, January through June, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at a variety of locations within Santa Clara. In addition to learning more about the past, present and future of Santa Clara, participants become more aware of regional issues such as transportation, energy and health care and improve on leadership skills such as public presentations, meeting management, working with the media and ethical decision-making.

Special activities include Public Safety Day that includes a trip to the Emergency Operations Center, Education Day, and mock Planning Commission and City Council meetings.

**For information on tuition costs, schedules and registration deadline
contact Leadership Santa Clara Program Coordinator
Scott Summerfield
smmrfd@aol.com • 925-249-9320**

Serve on a Board or Commission

Residents who would like to contribute to the quality of life in the City of Santa Clara are encouraged to apply to serve on any of the City's Board or Commission including the Board of Library Trustees, Civil Service Commission, Cultural Commission, Historical & Landmarks Commission, Housing Rehabilitation Loan Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Senior Advisory Commission and Youth Commission.

Santa Clara residents who are registered voters or are eligible to register to vote may apply to be a commissioner. For the Youth Commission, applicants must be Santa Clara residents and of the ages 12 to 19.

Information about current and upcoming vacancies can be obtained by visiting the City's website at SantaClaraCA.gov/commissions, emailing clerk@santaclaraca.gov, calling 408-615-2220, or visiting the City Clerk's Office at 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA, 95050.

Volunteers needed at SVACA

Individuals ages 13 and up are needed to help Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority take care of animals in need. Volunteers must commit to two hours per week to help clean and socialize animals, assist with outreach events, foster kittens and puppies, help with adoption and more. Learn more or sign up for the next orientation at SVACA.com.



Financial donations are also needed to help pay for the care of animals at the Animal Care Center, including specialized veterinary care for sick and injured animals. Tax deductible donations can be processed online at SVACA.com or sent by mail to SVACA Animal Assistance Fund, 3370 Thomas Rd., Santa Clara, CA 95054.

In 2016, SVACA's Animal Care Center saved 94% of the animals it received. "We've accomplished what few other comparable shelters have," said Dan Soszynski, Executive Director. "As an open door facility, we receive stray and owner-surrendered animals regardless of their physical condition or behavior status. This is an amazing save rate."

Keep your home safe while on vacation

There's more to do than locking the door on your way out of town to keep your home and its contents safe while you are on vacation. The longer you are going to be gone, the more preparations you should make in advance.

Look at the exterior of your home as it is today. That's how it should appear while the house is vacant. Make arrangements to keep the lawn mowed and vehicles parked in their normal arrangement. Position curtains and blinds as you usually do unless you have large uncovered windows that would tell a passerby that no one is home.

Have the post office hold your mail and be sure you are not expecting any deliveries from UPS or other carriers. Ask someone you trust to check on things in your absence so that packages, newspapers or door hangers don't accumulate.

Keep valuables away from uncovered windows and put jewelry or other small valuables in a safe deposit box. Invest in one or more timers so that lights will go on and off during the evening.

If you have a spare key hidden on the property, remove it. Double check that all windows and doors are closed and locked. If you don't have a home security system, consider putting a "Beware of Dog" sign in the window. Burglars are less likely to break in if they think they might be dealing with a dog.

Most importantly, don't post your absence and itinerary on social media. Wait until you return to share photos and vacation memories online with friends and family.

Infrastructure analysis shows need for improvements

An analysis of Santa Clara's infrastructure using the same evaluation criteria of the American Society of Civil Engineers that gave the nation's infrastructure a D+ grade in its recent report card, found that several of the City's most important assets are wearing out.

The analysis results were presented to City Council during a study session in March. The report can be read on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Grading criteria include capacity, condition, funding, future need, operation and maintenance, public safety and innovation aspects. An "A" grade means it is exceptional, a "B" denotes it is adequate for now, a "C" means it requires attention, and a "D" signifies the infrastructure is in poor to fair condition. An "F" grade is given to infrastructure that has advanced signs of deterioration.



Santa Clara's infrastructure grades listed in the City Council report were:

- Pavement management: C+
- Storm drains: D+
- Traffic signals: C-
- Street lighting: B+
- Bicycle facilities: C+
- Public buildings: C+
- Convention Center complex: C+
- Community and mini parks: C-
- Neighborhood parks: C
- Public open space and cemeteries: B
- Library: A-
- Recreation facilities and trail: B
- Water system: C+
- Sanitary sewer: B+
- Silicon Valley Power: A- to B+

The infrastructure report also included general estimates of the investment that would be needed to improve the grades and possible sources of funding. Individual departments are conducting more detailed analysis, including prioritized project list and cost estimates that will be presented to the City Council and the community in a few months.

Santa Clara Senior Center Services

The City of Santa Clara Senior Center provides a safe, positive and welcoming environment for adults ages 50 plus. The goal is to make available facilities, programs and services that meet the widely varying needs of older adults in our community as they age – from active senior to the frail elderly.

For specific program and service information, refer to the monthly Senior Center newsletter available at the Senior Center or on the website SantaClaraCA.gov/SeniorCenter. For specific questions, call 408-615-3170.



Programs and services at the Senior Center include:

- Newcomers Social
- Care Management
- Dining Out - Senior Nutrition Program
- Health Insurance and Medicare Counseling (HICAP)
- Health and Wellness
- Legal Assistance (SALA)
- Lunch Presentations
- Support Groups
- Senior Peer Advocate (SPA)
- Fitness Center and Natatorium
- Ballroom Dances
- Classes
- Adventures to Go & Let's Talk Travel



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Santa Clara, CA 95050**

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INSIDE SANTA CLARA Summer 2017

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City of Santa Clara Code of Ethics & Values

Ethical
Professional
Service-Oriented
Fiscally Responsible
Organized
Communicative
Collaborative
Progressive
Ethics Every Day:
Making Ethical Values a
Good Habit



City Public Meeting Schedule

Board of Library Trustees*1st Mon., 6:30 p.m.
City CouncilTwo Tue. per month, 7 p.m.
Civil Service Commission2nd Mon., 7 p.m.
Cultural Commission1st Mon., 7 p.m.
Historical & Landmarks Commission.....1st Thurs., 7 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission3rd Tue., 7 p.m.
Planning CommissionTwo Wed. per month, 7 p.m.
Senior Advisory Commission*4th Mon., 10 a.m.
Youth Commission (during the school year)** 2nd Tue., 6 p.m.

Some commissions/committees meet monthly and others meet semi-monthly. Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers unless otherwise noted.

Agendas for City Council, Board and Commission meetings are posted at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, the Central Park, Northside, and Mission Libraries, and on the City website at least three days before the listed meeting. Complete agenda packets with back-up reports for City Council meetings are available at City Libraries beginning Saturday before the Tuesday meetings, or at the City Clerk's Office on weekdays. The City website also allows for the viewing of Council Agenda Reports online. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov and search for "City Meetings."

* Meeting is at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd.

** Meeting is at the Senior Center, 1303 Fremont St.

*** Meeting is at Teen Center, 2446 Cabrillo Ave.

Online schedule: SantaClaraCA.gov

Dates and times may vary. Call 408-615-2220 for information.

City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Channel 15 and on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov. City Council meetings are also streamed live on Facebook and YouTube. Archives of past City Council and Planning Commission meetings are on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Inside

Summer 2017

Inside This Issue

Budget hearing.....	1
July 4th.....	1
Steve Carli Park.....	1
Mission Branch Library.....	1
Charter Review Committee.....	1
eNotify.....	1
City Manager message.....	2
Placemaking meetings.....	2
Summer Reading.....	2
Virtual Reality Lab.....	2
National Night Out.....	3
Emergency preparedness.....	3
Fireworks are illegal.....	3
Summer swim passes.....	4
Affordable Housing Working Group.....	4
Summer PAL programs.....	4
Medic Alert program.....	4
Crab Feed fundraiser.....	4
Mission College scholarships.....	4
New park groundbreaking.....	5
Citizens' Police Academy.....	5
Silicon Valley Power satisfaction.....	5
Council goal setting.....	5
Police Department events.....	6
Lawrence Station Plan.....	6
Summer recreation.....	6
Stadium Authority budget.....	6
Smoke alarms.....	6
Volunteer at Ulistac.....	6
"Forever" home rating.....	6
Age-friendly city.....	6
Triton Museum of Art.....	7
De Saisset Museum.....	7
New Sports Park.....	7
Adopt-a-Spot.....	7
Summer events in Santa Clara.....	8-9
Lawn Bowls Club invite.....	8
Summer Concerts.....	9
Summer City Holiday.....	9
Silicon Valley Power plant.....	10
Donald Von Raesfeld.....	10
New Green Power customers.....	10
Roberta Jones Junior Theatre.....	11
Summer family activities.....	11
Genealogy programs.....	12
Arielle's Reading Corner.....	12
Safe online transactions.....	12
Cooling centers.....	12
Online landscape information.....	12
Worker Retention Ordinance.....	13
Parent Resource Center.....	13
Loan Committee meeting dates.....	13
Therapeutic Recreation Services.....	13
Sister City visit.....	13
Energy efficiency tips.....	13
STEM Central.....	14
Volunteer opportunities.....	14
Silicon Valley Power award.....	14
Serve on Board or Commission.....	14
Leadership Santa Clara.....	14
Crisis Text Line.....	14
SVACA volunteers needed.....	15
Infrastructure analysis.....	15
Home security tips.....	15
Senior Center Services.....	15

**City of
Santa Clara**
The Center of What's Possible



The Newspaper for City of Santa Clara Residents & Businesses

Celebrate this summer – but keep balloons in hand!

Summer celebrations can be great fun – balloons add to the festivities. But helium balloons can be dangerous if let loose and they cause several power outages in Santa Clara every year when they contact power lines. Silicon Valley Power, the City's municipal electric utility, reminds residents to hold on tight and keep balloons fun for everyone during graduation or birthday celebrations, Father's Day, Fourth of July and other enjoyable occasions.

Not only is a power outage inconvenient for the community, but balloons mixed with electricity can cause fires, darken traffic lights, cause hospitals and clinics to switch to emergency power sources and force many small businesses to close for the day. Santa Clara suffered from multiple balloon-caused outages earlier this year – one left nearly 2,600 residences and businesses without power during a Friday noon hour.

Keep those balloons in hand, attached to a weight or tied down to prevent these unnecessary and sometimes critical impacts on our daily lives.

**KEEP THE LIGHT
HOLD ON TIGHT!**

Keep balloons away from power lines

