City budget hearing is June 25

A study session on the proposed 2019-20 and 2020-21 Biennial City Operating Budget is scheduled on Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1500 Waburton Ave. A public hearing on the proposed budget will take place in Council Chambers on Tuesday, June 25. This will be an opportunity for residents to comment on the City budget. The proposed budget can be read online at SantaClaraCA.gov and printed copies are available at the City libraries and at the City Clerk’s office in City Hall.

Stadium Authority budget approved

The Santa Clara Stadium Authority Board approved the Annual Operating, Debt Service and Capital Budget for fiscal year 2019-20 at a public hearing in March. The $73.6 million Operating Budget includes $3.3 million that is paid to the City of Santa Clara General Fund from senior and youth fees, ground rent and performance contract revenue. The General Fund pays for core City services such as police, fire, library, parks, streets, recreation, etc.

The $51.7 million Debt Service Budget includes $34.9 million in principal debt payments. Lastly, the Capital Budget of $14.2 million comprises of a number of projects to be completed at Levi’s® Stadium. More detail about the Stadium Authority Budget can be found on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov/sca.

Celebrate July 4th with All-City Picnic & Fireworks

The annual celebration of Independence Day returns to Central Park, 909 Kieby Blvd, for a full day of family fun. From noon to 5 p.m., enjoy games, face painting, food and swimming, followed by an evening dance party, 5-9:30 p.m. with the Cheeseballs band playing the best music of the ‘70s, ‘80s, ‘90s and today. The day ends with a patriotic fireworks display beginning at approximately 9:30 p.m. Bring your own blankets and lawn chairs. Barbecue areas will be open on a first-come, first-served basis throughout the park. For additional information, call 408-615-3140.

Council sets priorities, policy direction for the year

At a two-day special session at the beginning of 2019, the City Council reviewed its previously established priorities and made two modifications to the strategic goals. These pillars build a sustainable future for Santa Clara that protects its economic viability and quality of life.

In recognition of the importance of the City’s workforce as its greatest investment and asset, the pillar that addresses staffing has been revised to “Manage strategically our workforce capacity and resources.” It previously was labeled “Maintain adequate staffing levels.” A seventh pillar, “Sustainability,” was added by the City Council.

Here are the seven strategic pillars approved by the City Council that will guide policy decisions and priority-setting in the coming year:

- Promote and enhance economic and housing development
- Enhance community sports and recreational assets
- Deliver and enhance high quality efficient services and infrastructure
- Manage strategically our workforce capacity and resources
- Enhance community engagement and transparency
- Ensure compliance with Measure J and manage Levi’s® Stadium
- Sustainability

The public can read the agenda packet or watch the recorded sessions on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov/CouncilPrioritySession.

Four State of the City presentations scheduled

The Mayor, joined by members of the City Council, will present the annual State of the City address at four locations in June. It will focus on an overview of Santa Clara’s accomplishments and opportunities, and be followed by City Manager Deanna J. Santana who will provide an overview of the City budget and discuss major initiatives. The State of the City presentations will take place at the following locations:

- Thursday, June 20, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Santa Clara Senior Center, 1303 Fremont St., during a special Senior Center luncheon
- Thursday, June 20, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd.
- Friday, June 21, 1-3 p.m., Northside Branch Library, 695 Moreland Way
- Saturday, June 22, 1-3 p.m., Mission Branch Library, 1098 Lexington St.

For information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/StateoftheCity

Community input sought about Zoning Code issues

Residents are invited to offer their opinions on several key elements that will be addressed in the updated City Zoning Code which is now under a comprehensive review by the City. An online survey will be available in June on Open City Hall at SantaClaraCA.gov/opencityhall.

Topics queried will include standards for parking, single family design standards, long term and short term residential rental regulations, and proposed new zoning districts.

The update is the most significant undertaken since 1969. The goal is to modernize the Zoning Code so that it is easier to navigate, and to have it reflect the uses and development patterns contained in the General Plan 2035.

For information on additional community outreach activities, sign up on eNotify or visit the website SantaClaraCA.gov/zoningcodeupdate.

Silicon Valley Power earns national recognition for reliability

Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility, has earned the prestigious Reliable Public Power Provider® Gold designation from the American Public Power Association for its outstanding record of providing reliable and safe electric service to the community.

The designation recognizes public power utilities in the U.S. that demonstrate proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. The award is the most recent in a long list of accolades that have been earned by Silicon Valley Power over the past few years.
Dear Santa Clara Community,

Summer is my favorite season and it is wonderful in Santa Clara—sunny days, parks and pools, outdoor concerts, recreation, and learning opportunities for all ages. We all understand how and why people come from all over to enjoy the summer season in Santa Clara.

With that in mind, earlier this year, the City Council devoted two days to thinking about community services and strategic goals, service prioritization, and policy directions the City should pursue that will best position the City for the year 2025 and beyond. The Strategic Planning Session was designed to gather input and information about the status of our financial situation, our services, and the challenges that lie ahead. In fact, the City Council adopted seven strategic pillars: updating one pillar to manage strategically our workforce capacity and skill needs, enhancing the City’s financial resilience, keeping our infrastructure up to prime condition, and improving our ability to keep residents safe and up to date for the public. As a standing policy, the City also needs to address the City of Santa Clara’s unfunded infrastructure projects. Last year, we presented the City Council with complete reports that provide the status of our infrastructure needs. Our parks, swimming pools, public facilities like libraries and recreation buildings, streets and other infrastructure all have a limited lifespan. They require maintenance, repair and rehabilitation to keep them in safe and up-to-date condition for the public. A City also needs to be able to expand its infrastructure to meet the needs of people who live, work, visit and raise families in Santa Clara today and tomorrow.

One of the outcomes of the Council’s Priority Setting Session is the need for a capital fund strategy to address short-term and long-term needs for infrastructure maintenance and improvement. The annual Capital Improvement Budget is focused on funding those projects that pose health/safety issues and serious deferred maintenance. It’s a juggling act because there are not enough dollars to fully fund all of the needs at once, and it does not begin to address the longer list of projects that would bring all of our infrastructure up to prime condition. And to make it simple: expanding infrastructure to meet the needs of people who live, work, visit and raise families in Santa Clara today and tomorrow.

Come say hello
There will be many opportunities for us to meet this summer (State of the City presentations; 4th of July All-City Picnic, National Night Out, Senior Ice Cream Social, concerts, and more), and I look forward to talking with you, your family and your neighbors about what’s on your mind. As always, I encourage you to reach out to me as your representative by signing up for childcare, calling my office at 408-615-5580, or meeting with me at a Council event. I also encourage you to take advantage of one of the City’s new email newsletters that provide you with information about Santa Clara developments, park rehabilitation, new or revised planning-community-meetings and video stories of city activities. From the City’s Facebook page, you can follow the Mayor’s Facebook page, the City Manager’s Facebook page, and the City’s YouTube channel to watch City Council, City Council Committee meetings and Planning Commission meetings streamed live, or to watch past episodes, community events and public education videos.

Community Meetings
City of Santa Clara
Planning
Public forums are scheduled frequently to allow residents to learn more about proposed developments, park rehabilitation, new or revised policies, or other issues in the City. Sign up to receive notifications on citywide through the CityMelt email newsletter.

Nextdoor: Nextdoor.com
Sign up for this neighborhood networking tool and you will receive posts from the City of Santa Clara about public events, crime prevention, emergency notifications and more.

Twitter: Twitter.com/santaclaracity
Follow the City of Santa Clara or specific City departments like Police, Library and Silicon Valley Power.

LinkedIn
Like post from the City of Santa Clara or specific City departments including Human Resources and Silicon Valley Power.

My Santa Clara App: Santa Clara.gov/myapp
Download this free app to your smartphone to access more than 15 options for service requests or information. Find it in the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Nixle
Register on the web at Nixle.gov to receive updates from the Santa Clara Police Department, including traffic alerts.

Enjoy your summer and enjoy your community — it’s truly a great year of time in the City of Santa Clara!

Deanna J. Santana, City Manager

Tour the Community Garden

Tour the Everett N “Eddie” Souza Park Community Garden, 2380 Monroe St. This summer tour about its unique features. Garden volunteers host open garden tours frequently.

The garden includes a mini stone-fruit orchard, an area showcasing citrus trees from all over the world, demonstration beds, an apiary (bee yard), a garden bed for visiting children to learn and from a compost demonstration area. All garden beds are currently occupied, but residents can apply to be placed on the wait list. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/communitygarden for information and tour dates.

Two parks named in honor of community leaders

Two new parks in Santa Clara have been named for former community leaders who made significant contributions to improving the quality of life in the city.

On Saturday, June 22, the park known as San Tomas & Monroe Neighborhood Park since its opening in August 2018 will be dedicated as the “Erector N. ‘Eddie’ Souza Park” in public ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. at 2380 Monroe St.

Souza, a third generation Santa Claran, spent his lifetime involved in supporting community organizations, especially those that advocated for underprivileged residents. He worked for the City of Santa Clara in 1979 and served in that position until he was elected Mayor in 1985. He was re-elected for a second term as Mayor in 1991 as a result of our public services, he had a passion for granting, conserving, and apportioning and park policies, and gardening and conserving. He passed away in 2016.

The park known as Central Park Annex Park, 2002 Milos Dr., since its opening in March 2018 is now called the “Bill Wilson Park.” Wilson was also committed to the Santa Clara community and activities for youth. He served on City Council 1963-1971 and was elected Mayor in 1965. He served on the Santa Clara City Library Board and the Board of Directors of the Bill Wilson Center (then known as the Webster Center) where he volunteered as a counselor. He passed away in 1977 at the age of 41.

Under City Council policy, City parks and other facilities may be named in recognition of individuals, living or deceased, who have made outstanding contributions to the Santa Clara community and/or who made contributions of state, national or worldwide significance. Recommendations for naming originate from one of the City’s commissions or board and is reviewed by the City Council.

Summer camps offer variety of fun opportunities

More than two dozen summer camps for children and teens are available this summer from the Parks & Recreation Department, including camps for special interests such as Little Explorers, cheer and dance, Mayo Yound Day camps, gymnastics, and tennis Roberta Jones Jr. Theatre.

Teen Breakaway Camp
Tennis will enjoy the variety of five-day Breakaway Camps that each week offer a different selection of fun, tech, games and field trips. Seven one-week programs are offered, beginning June 17-21 through Aug. 5. Cost is $205 per week for Santa Clara residents ($245 for non-residents) and includes admissions, transportation, supervision by trained Teen Center staff and daily snacks.

Sports Camps
Popular with youngsters ages 5-13 are the sports camps offered throughout the summer, June 17 through Aug. 2. Each camp features fun-filled days of learning the fundamentals of various sports as well as a variety of recreation games, plus there are field trips, swimming and other sports-related activities. There is also an extended care option at the Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center, 3450 Cabrillo Ave.

Learn about all of the summer camp opportunities and register online on the Parks & Recreation Department pages of the City website SantaClaraCA.gov.

Fireworks are illegal in Santa Clara

Fireworks, including those classified as “safe and sane,” used by the California State Fire Marshal, are illegal in the City of Santa Clara. They include firecrackers, roman candles, and ground effect devices and devices that project or emit fire. Prohibited fireworks include bottle rockets, roman candles, firecrackers and smoke bombs. The fines for the next citation is $300 and/or imprisonment for up to six months.

Residents are asked to report noise complaints to the City’s police department.

• Injury – call 9-1-1
• Fire – call 9-1-1
• Property damage – call the non-emergency number 408-615-5580
• Noise disturbances – report any location where fireworks are being set off – call the non-emergency number 408-615-5580

Stay safe on July 4th and attend the free firework display in Central Park, 2000 Kiely Blvd., that is performed by licensed professionals.

Keep pets indoors on July 4

Fireworks are frightening to animals, and the illegal use of fireworks results in many missing pets each year. Keep your pets indoors and make sure they are wearing identification tags on their collar in case they become separated from you.

New smoking restrictions take effect in August

Effective Aug. 1, smoking will be prohibited in all public parks and open space lands, including inside individual units, indoor common areas and outdoor areas such as a private balcony or patio, under the cover of any operable day or night time window, opening or vent. The law does not apply to new family homes.

The new regulation is part of the City’s Smokefree Santa Clara initiative that also prohibits smoking in public parks, open air dining areas, transit stops and other service areas, and public places when being used for a public meeting or the goal of the Smokefree Airs & Tobacco Regulations Ordinance adopted by the City Council in February is to better protect the public from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

As defined by the new law, “smoking” includes the use of cigarettes, cigars, pipes, or e-cigarettes, vaporized or otherwise. “Smokefree” applies to single family homes.

For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/smokefree

Apply for Charter Review Committee

The formation of a new Charter Review Committee was approved by the City Council on May 7 to implement voter-approved Measure N. Per the Charter’s direction, the purpose of the Charter Review Committee is to be neutral and focused on a public policy to draft language for amending the City Charter with respect to council district elections. For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/charterreviewcommittee.
STEAM-filled summer reading program gets underway

The annual and very popular summer reading program at Santa Clara City Library gets underway in June, with residents of all ages invited to set reading goals for the summer season. This year’s theme is “Summer of Discovery” with an emphasis on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math), and the libraries are filled with books that explore these subjects.

The program kicks off on Saturday, June 8, with family events at all three libraries. The fun begins at 10 a.m. at Northside Branch Library, 696 Meadowlark Way, with performances by Coventry & Kukusa and R E D S t a r G u i t a r. Central Park Library, 2603 Homestead Rd., becomes center stage at 12:30 p.m. with appearances by Python Ron and his Reptile Kingdom, followed by Hide and Sonnake Crafts. At 3 p.m. the action moves to Mission Branch Library, 1098 Lexington St., for the Andy Z show and face painting. All events are free.

To participate in the reading challenge, youth and adults commit to reading at least five books between June 1 and Aug. 15 to be eligible to enter a raffle to win one of several grand prizes. Participants maintain a reading log that also contains optional activities to learn even more chances to win.

A complete list of Summer of Discovery events can be found at SCLibrary.org. The 2019 Summer Reading Challenge is sponsored by KeyPoint Credit Union, the Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends, and the San Jose Giants.

Get charged up about electric vehicles and save money

To encourage more residents to support a clean energy economy by purchasing an electric vehicle (EV). Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility, is offering a rebate to help pay for the cost of installing a Level 2 EV charging station.

The rebate provides financial incentives to accelerate the deployment of EV transportation in Santa Clara and help the City meet its carbon reduction goals. Four types of rebates are available, up to $275 per charging station for residences, up to $3,000 per charging station for multifamily complexes, and up to $5,000 per charging station for schools and nonprofits. Low income multifamily complexes are also eligible for an additional $1,000 per charging station.

Electric vehicle users in Santa Clara will be pleased with the affordability of EV charging services since Silicon Valley Power rates continue to be the lowest of any California utility providing electricity to more than 5,000 customers.

For more information and rebate application forms, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/EV.

City examines its accessibility

The City of Santa Clara is preparing an extensive analysis of its policies, programs, procedures and communications related to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as an evaluation of accessibility to public buildings, parks and public transportation.

The ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Project is seeking public engagement through meetings of the City’s ADA Committee, public outreach events and website information updates posted on SantaClaraCA.gov. The next public outreach meeting will be held in the fall. A draft plan and final report will be presented to the public and considered by the City Council in early 2020.

The goal of the project is to develop recommendations for improved accessibility with disabilities. This includes identifying and prioritizing physical barriers that might hinder accessibility to City-owned public buildings, parks and pedestrian areas including sidewalks, intersections and curb ramps.

For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/adatransitionplan.

City is developing bicycle/scooter share program

The City of Santa Clara is in the process of developing a bicycle/scooter share program within city limits. A report on the progress of this effort will be presented to the City Council on Tuesday, June 4.

Bicycle/scooter share programs allow people to use an app on their smartphone to rent shared bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters across the city in short periods of time. These devices are often operated on City streets and offer an alternative transportation solution for short trips.

Currently, the City has a one-year moratorium until December 2019 on the operation of bicycle/scooter share in Santa Clara so that the City can create a regulatory framework (i.e. operator permit program) to address potential concerns identified by residents, businesses and other stakeholders.

Several cities in the Bay Area have enacted similar programs.

Community outreach meetings were held in March, April and May to provide opportunities for the public to provide input. For more information, watch the City Council meeting on June 4 on Comcast Cable Channel 15 of the live stream on the City website SantaClaraCA.gov, or the project website SantaClaraCA.gov/bicyclescootersharing.

Therapeutic recreation summer camps offered in July

One-week summer camps for individuals age 6 and older with development disabilities will be offered in July as part of the City’s Therapeutic Recreation Services. Participants will have fun with sports and fitness activities as well as arts and crafts and skills in a team building environment. Campers must have a current Therapeutic Recreation Services intake on file and be able to function in a 1:5 staff to participant ratio or provide an attendant.

The camps will be held 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. during the weeks of July 8-12 and July 15-19 at Montague Park. After-camp care from 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. is available for camp participants who can function in a 1:8 staff to participant ratio or provide an attendant.

For information on the camps or after-camp care, contact Lauren Cecil at 408-655-3169 or lounielc@santacalusa.co.

Modern streetlights brighten Santa Clara

A second phase of the LED Streetlight Retrofit Project has been completed by Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility. Nearly 6,400 streetlights and intersection lights have now been modernized throughout the community. The remaining lights will be changed over to LED in the near future.

LED light sources provide improved visibility and more controlled coverage than traditional lights, creating safer conditions for residents to walk, bicycle or drive at night. New LED technologies use up to 50 percent less energy than the high pressure sodium and mercury vapor streetlights that are being replaced. This results in a lower carbon footprint for the Santa Clara community.

The first two phases of the LED Streetlight Retrofit Project equate to more than four million kilowatt hours of electricity savings each year. Undoubtedly, the City’s infrastructure with modern technologies, such as LEDs, benefits the community by improving the safety and efficiency of city operations.

Library adds enhanced online catalog to its services

The Santa Clara City Library has added a second, enhanced online catalog feature to help library users virtually explore books, DVDs, music and other materials in the library’s collection that may be of interest.

The enhanced catalog uses a more intuitive search capability and allows readers to share title recommendations as well as track favorite books and build personal reading lists. The home page lists staff picks and recently reviewed and rated books, films and music.

Both the classic catalog and the enhanced catalog can be accessed on the library’s website SCLibrary.org. For more information, stop by the Reference Desk at the libraries or call library staff at 408-655-2970.

Sports Park construction continues this summer

Construction is continuing this summer on the new Reed & Grant Streets Sports Park that will include five lighted sports fields (with multiple configurations), two off street parking lots, a multi-purpose community recreation building, a landscaped promenade and entry plaza, a children’s playground with seating and picnic area, team gathering and spectator viewing areas, a multi-purpose community recreation building and a two-story restroom building for the Raymond G. Gamma Dog Park. It is scheduled to open in the spring of 2020.

Other park improvement projects

Several other park rehabilitation projects are also underway this summer, including grading and drainage work at the Montague Park Machado Park, Agnew Park and Homeridge Park. A sports court (volleyball and half basketball court) will be built at Fuller Street Park. A more extensive rehabilitation of Montano Park is scheduled to start in spring 2020. More information on these projects can be found at SantaClaraCA.gov/parkprojects.

Find resources for sustainable gardening

Looking for inspiration for your yard? Want to learn ways to attract butterflies, conserve water, improve your soil and use fewer pesticides? Searching for a class on how to prune fruit trees, select native plants or plant a vegetable garden? South Bay Green Gardens is a website sponsored by the City of Santa Clara in partnership with other local agencies, to provide gardeners with a wide variety of resources to support sustainable landscaping.

SouthBayGreenGardens.org resources include information on landscape designs, water efficient irrigation, pest management, tree care, managing rainwater, events and other relevant topics. For more information, visit SouthBayGreenGardens.org.

Free, low-cost admission to Bay Area attractions

Holders of a Santa Clara City Library card have access to the "Discover & Go" program that offers free and low-cost passes to local museums, science centers, zoos, theaters and other cultural destinations.

Popular vacation spots participating in the program include the Tech Museum of Innovation, San Jose Museum of Art, California Academy of Sciences, Pacific Pinball Museum, San Francisco’s Asian Art Museum and Arwood and Dwarf Historic Farm in East Bay Regional Park.

To take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy local attractions, visit one of Santa Clara’s three libraries or the website SCLibrary.org.

Private breastfeeding space opens at library

A private Mamava lactation space opened in May at Central Park Library, 2603 Homestead Rd., to provide mothers with a secluded area for breastfeeding. It is located in the Children’s Collection area, and was funded by the Santa Clara City Library Foundation & Friends and its 2019 Kaiser Permanente Health and Wellness grant.

For information, visit SCLibrary.org.

City Mission Statement

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

Inside Summer 2019

Inside Summer 2019

Inside Summer 2019
Serve on a Board, Commission or Committee
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 Commissions 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 website at SantaClaraCA.gov/commissions, emailing clerk@sanclara.ca.gov, calling 408-615-2220, or visiting the City Clerk’s Office at 1500 Wauraban Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050.

Adopt-a-Spot and become a community superhero
Community groups, businesses, faith organizations, schools or a network 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 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 the clean-ups occur (minimum of four times per year). The City facilitates clean-up events with training and loaned equipment, such as safety vests, gloves, trash buckets and trash grabbers. For information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/adoptasport.

New management team leads Convention Center operations
The City of Santa Clara has contracted with Spectra, a national leader in venue management and hospitality tourism operations, to operate the Santa Clara Convention Center. The selection was approved by the City Council after a nationwide competitive procurement process. The Santa Clara Convention Center, opened in 1986, hosts hundreds of events each year, bringing thousands of visitors to the area whose expenditures in Santa Clara generate significant income for the City’s General Fund that pays for core municipal services such as police, fire, parks, libraries, streets and other programs.

Spectra’s new convention venues will be headed by industry veteran Kelly Carr as general manager.

Health professionals call vaping a teenage epidemic
Across the country, e-cigarette use has increased 80 percent for high schoolers and 50 percent for middle school students over the past year, raising concerns by both the Food and Drug Administration and the Surgeon General about the effect of “vaping” on teenager health. E-cigarettes (also known as vapes) are devices, usually battery operated, that heat up and vaporize a liquid or solid that usually contains nicotine, flavorings and chemicals to form an aerosol mist. The user inhales this mist, called an “airstream,” through an electronic device that can look like a pen, car, fire hydrant, flash drives or even key fobs – items teens often carry at school – so parents and teachers may not easily recognize what they are.

Although promoted as less harmful than smoking cigarettes, vaping can be addictive and harmful to adolescent brains and bodies. Manufacturers are targeting teens with flavors and packages like Mermaid Tears, Cotton Candy and fruity Puff Nics so young people often think vaping is harmless. The Santa Clara Police Department urges parents to become more familiar with the types and risks of e-cigarettes, and to discuss the dangers of vaping with their children. The Surgeon General has published a tip sheet for parents that answers common questions and provides guidelines on how to have a conversation with youngsters about vaping. It can be downloaded at E-cigarettes.Surgeongeneral.gov.

Watch out for phone scam about utility bills
A recent scam is taking place where Santa Clara residents are receiving phone calls alerting them about the status of their utility bills and requesting payment for utility bills. Fraudsters are calling Santa Clara residents requesting payment using cash, credit card or gift card for their utility bill. In some cases, the caller also asks you to pay your bill at a grocery store. Don’t always believe your caller ID. Technology makes it easy for scammers to fake caller ID information, so call and number you see aren’t always real. If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up. If you think the caller might be telling the truth, call back to a number you know is genuine. Scammers often pretend to be someone you trust, like a government official, a family member, a charity or a company you do business with. Don’t send money or give out personal information in response to an unexpected request – whether it comes as a text, a phone call, or an email.

Electric meter installation complete
Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility, thanks the Santa Clara community for its cooperation during the installation of almost 50,000 new meters for a new advanced meter infrastructure program that will improve efficiency. Most customers will see no difference in how they are billed, but there have been instances of estimated bills or – in rare cases – no bills – during the transition. Silicon Valley Power appreciates customers’ understanding and patience. Advanced meter customers will notice slight changes to their paper bill format which will show only usage for that month, not a meter read. Billing details can still be found by logging on to your account on the “My bill other customers” portal on the City of Santa Clara’s website, SantaClaraCA.gov.

Programs and services at the Senior Center include:
• Adventures To Go Travel Program
• Ballroom Dances
• Card Games
• Computer Lab
• Dining Out - Senior Nutrition Program
• Drop-in Ceramics, Lapidary, Woodshop
• Drop-in Activities – Billiards, Darts, Shuffleboard, Bingo, Card Games
• Fitness Center and Natatorium
• Health Education and Coaching - Blood Pressure Checks, Evidence Based Programming, Health Screenings
• Health Insurance and Medicare Counseling (HICAP)
• Information Referral for Seniors (formerly EPA)
• Legal Assistance (SALA)
• Support Groups
• Welcome Newcomers (information meeting and tour of center)

Santa Clara Senior Center Services
The City of Santa Clara Senior Center provides a safe, positive and welcoming environment for adults ages 50+. 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 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.

Santa Clara Senior Center
1303 Fremont St. (at Monroe)
Monday-Thuesday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Friday: 7-9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m.-noon
Sunday: closed
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Farmers Market**
Every Saturday
Every weekend throughout the year the Downtown Santa Clara Farmers Market is open on Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., on Jackson Street between Homestead and Benton. Fresh fruits and vegetables from local fields and orchards are available for purchase along with flowers, baked goods and prepared foods. Don't forget to bring your own bags.

**Santa Clara Chorale Encore Performance**
Performance
Sunday, June 2
In an informal matinée concert that has become a well-loved tradition, the Chorale revives musical highlights from the past and performs them with a performance at 3 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 1597 Pruneridge Ave. The concert is a prelude to the Chorale's summer tour of the Baltic Republics where it will perform four concerts with repertoire from the 2018-19 concert season. For information, visit SCLibrary.org.

**“Disney’s Cinderella Kids”**
Friday-Sunday, June 7-9
Robert Jones Junior Theatre will perform this timeless, “rags to riches” fairy tale the weekend of June 7-9 at the Mary Louise Mello Auditorium, Community Recreation Center, 408 Kiely Blvd. The musical, adapted from a treasured animated film, will star local children both on stage and behind-the-scenes. Friday’s performance is at 7 p.m. with matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are $5 for children, $10 for adults and are available for purchase at 408-247-3140 or online. Robert Jones Junior Theatre is a program of the City Parks & Recreation Department.

**Museum Tours**
Saturday, June 8
Docent-led tours of the Harris-Lass Historic Museum, 1889 Market St., will be available 1-3 p.m. For information, visit harrislass.org.

**Silicon Valley BBQ Championship**
Saturday, June 8
The 8th annual Silicon Valley BBQ Championship returns to Central Park, 909 Kiely Blvd., to exchange seeds, seedlings, recipes, garden foods, plant cuttings and knowledge. Each session will have a different topic. Times will vary depending on weather conditions. For details visit SantaClaraCA.gov/ CommunityGarden.

**CONCERTS IN THE PARK**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Evergreen Park, 2280 Monroe St.</td>
<td>A free evening of games and recreational fun, followed by a movie poolside.</td>
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<td>At the Montague Swim Center, 3750 De La Cruz Blvd. The fun begins at 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Recreation swim fees apply.</td>
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**Science of Self-Care Series**
Wednesday, June 12
This series gives participants the opportunity to create popular self-care products (bath bombs, body butter and face masks) using natural materials like coconut oil, oatmeal, sea salt, shea butter and beeswax. Take-home instructions will be provided so the products can be re-created with family and friends. Each session is 7-8 p.m. at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd.

**Carnegie Library**
Monday, July 8
Join your neighbors and bring the family out for a fun evening of games, followed by a movie poolside at the Sunol Library, 2350 Royal Dr. The fun begins at 6:30 p.m. Recreation swim fees apply.

**Ice Cream Social**
Saturday, July 13
Stop by the Santa Clara Senior Center, 1003 Fremont St., to enjoy a dish of ice cream and the chance to learn about the programs and activities available to older adults, ages 50+.

**Pour for Paws**
Friday, Sept. 20
This annual fundraiser for Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (SVACA) will be held 6-9 p.m. at Black Ridge Vineyards, 18570 Black Rd., Los Gatos. All funds raised at this dog-friendly event will directly benefit the SVACA Animal Care Center in Santa Clara. For ticket information, visit SVACA.com/pourforpaws.
Thefts from vehicles on the rise

The number of thefts from vehicles has significantly increased in Santa Clara, with most incidents occurring in retail store parking lots and at apartment complexes. Most of these thefts are crimes of opportunity and are easily preventable, according to the Santa Clara Police Department.

Secure balloons to avoid power outages

Every year, three to five power outages occur in Santa Clara when escaped helium balloons get loose and come in contact with power lines. Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility, urges residents to hold tight to balloons during summer celebrations, picnics and other outdoor activities.

Power outages caused by balloons are not just inconveniences for the community. Balloons mixed with electricity can cause fires, darken traffic lights, cause hospitals and clinics to switch to emergency power sources, and force small businesses to close for the day. Avoid these unnecessary and sometimes critical impacts on community life by keeping balloons in hand, attached to a weight or tied down.

For information on current and past power outages, visit the website SilliconValleyPower.com or the Twitter feed Twitter.com/SantaClaraPower. The website also includes helpful information on how to prepare for a power outage and what to do should one occur.

New puppy or dog?

If you have added a new puppy or dog to your family, don’t forget to let the City know that there may be a dog in the yard when meter readers come to read your meter each month. Having that information on your file will help to avoid possible service interruptions.

If you have a victim of a theft from a vehicle, you can file a police report online at scp.org, in person at the Police Station, 661 El Camino Real (Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.) or call 408-615-5580 for police officer response. Take these proactive steps to reduce your risk of becoming a victim and help decrease crime in Santa Clara.

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Prepare for emergency with free class

A free three-hour workshop on disaster preparedness will be offered twice this summer by the Santa Clara Fire Department. Topics will include: emergency supplies to keep at home and in the car, steps to make your home safer, what to do in case of an earthquake, and communication challenges after a disaster.

The workshop is scheduled for Saturday, June 8, or Tuesday, Aug. 20, a 9 a.m.-noon, at the Santa Clara Fire Department Training Center, 1000 Walsh Ave. More in-depth training is also available through the Santa Clara Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program which is designed to prepare residents to come to the aid of their family, friends and neighbors when natural disasters or events of terrorism occur.

For information on both the classes, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CERT.

Cooling centers offer hot weather relief

During periods of hot weather this summer, cooling centers will be available at City facilities to offer residents a chance to get out of the heat. Cooling centers are open during regular facility hours at these five locations: Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd.; City Hall Cafeteria, 1500 Wawona Ave.; Community Recreation Center, 969 Kieby Blvd., Santa Clara Senior Center, 1303 Fremont St., and Northside Branch Library, 695 Moreland Way.

Check the City website SantaClaraCA.gov/coolingcenters for information on current facility hours.
Get to know Housing & Community Services Division

The Housing & Community Services Division provides vision and strategic leadership for the The Housing & Community Services Division provides strategic leadership for the City’s housing program and is responsible for identifying affordable housing development opportunities in Santa Clara. The Division is responsible for federal grant and contract administration, delivery of housing programs and services, and implementation of the City’s inclusionary housing program which requires that a percentage of new development units be dedicated to low- and moderate-income residents.

The City’s redesigned housing website, SantaClaraCA.gov/housing, provides a collection of resources for homeowners and homeowners, renters, homeless assistance, public service agencies, and the City’s affordable housing development pipelines. Here are two of the more popular programs offered through this division:

Below Market Purchase (BMP) program

The City of Santa Clara offers a Below Market Purchase (BMP) Program helping low- and moderate-income families achieve the goal of homeownership. This program provides first-time homeownership opportunities to applicants who make less than the countywide moderate-income levels with sales prices set at an affordable price. The program also helps facilitate the inclusionary housing requirements that set aside a percentage of housing units in new residential developments available for low- and moderate-income households.

Prospective applicants must be first-time homebuyers and their incomes must fall within the yearly gross household income limits for the program. A BMP home must also be owner occupied during the 20-year term of the agreement and applicants must agree to the resale restrictions for BMP homes, which include equipment terms for the City’s BMP loan. Applications and additional information can be obtained by contacting the Housing Trust of Silicon Valley, the City of Santa Clara’s BMP program administrator, at HousingTrustSV.org/below-market-purchase-program or 408-436-3450.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance

No one should have to experience homelessness, especially children. Santa Clara is working to eliminate youth homelessness through the City’s Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program. TBRA helps low-income homeless, families with children who are at-risk of homelessness, and youth who have aged out of the foster care system. The TBRA program also provides case management services to help families search for affordable housing, get connected with valuable resources, and increase their income.

The official start of Census 2020 is April 1, 2020. In March 2020, households will begin to receive letters in the mail about how to complete the census. Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone. In May 2020, U.S. Census field staff will visit households who have not yet completed the census.

Visit Triton Museum of Art this summer

The Triton Museum of Art, 1505 Woburn Avenue, will host the special exhibition of art this summer including a selection of works by well known South Bay artist Ruth Tsunoda Grant. Other exhibits are "Wave," Voices of the Ocean Call to Nature, with artists Mazinnani and "From the Center to the Edges" by painter and printmaker Kathryn Motta. For more information about this and other events and their work, visit TritonMuseum.org. The Triton Museum is open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Parking and admission is free.

Strategic plan forecasts bright future for Silicon Valley Power

A 10-year strategic plan is now in place for Silicon Valley Power, the City’s municipal electric utility, that will help to keep it as a top leader in the rapidly evolving energy marketplace.

This plan was developed over several months in 2018 by staff, customers, City leadership and the community, and approved by the City Council in December. It focuses on how Silicon Valley Power can continue to be a leader in an industry that is facing major changes in the coming years, including new electric industry technology and innovations, changes in energy customer expectations, California policy and regulations, and maintaining a competitive workforce. The four key areas of the strategic plan are: utility performance, customer satisfaction, project and innovation focus, and community and environmental stewardship.

Silicon Valley Power will continue to be agile, transparent, and accountable while remaining competitive and up-to-date in the energy marketplace. It will always maintain low rates for customers, and providing reliable and safe service is the highest priority.

The complete Silicon Valley Power 10-Year Strategic Plan can be found at SiliconValleyPower.com.
Apply now for fall Citizens’ Police Academy

What is it like to be a police officer in Santa Clara? Twice a year, the Citizens’ Police Academy provides residents with the opportunity to learn about law enforcement and specific programs, services, and facilities managed by the Santa Clara Police Department. Applications are currently being accepted until June 28 for the fall program.

Community involvement is the key to successful police programs and community-police relationships. The intent of the Academy is not to train residents to become police officers. Instead, the program, designed to provide an interactive way to create more informed residents and allow residents to see first-hand the daily responsibilities and expectations of law enforcement professionals, both sworn and civilian.

The Academy is kept small, with approximately 20 residents in each class. Participants engage in a combination of classroom and hands-on learning including a “ride along” with a patrol officer, and a behind-the-scenes tour of Levi’s® Stadium. Participants also receive instruction by the Police Department’s range master and lead a car in a controlled environment.

The program is five and meets one night per week, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., for 12 weeks plus graduation. For more information, visit the webpage scpdp.org and click on Community-Citizens’ Police Academy.

Site work construction on Related Santa Clara started in May

After years of planning and discussion, site prep work on the first phase of the Related Santa Clara project, the largest development in Santa Clara history, began in May. By the end of 2019, Related Companies, the project developer, has completed this prep work, with foundation and vertical construction for the first phase expected to begin in early 2020. It is anticipated the first phase of the project will open in early 2023, bringing an exciting mix of new food and retail offerings to Santa Clara residents and visitors.

Water wisely during summer months

Reports estimate that as much as 50 percent of water used outdoors during the summer months goes to waste from evaporation, wind or watering to overwatering. You may be spraying your landscape healthy and reduce outdoor water use by following these suggestions.

• Water in the morning or evening after the sun goes down.
• Check the irrigation system for leaks or broken or clogged sprinkler heads.
• During mowing, avoid cutting grass shorter than 20-30 gallons per 1,000 square feet each time you water.
• Sweep driveways, sidewalks and porches rather than hosing them off.

For more information on water conservation, visit ValleyWater.org.

Summer games at Mission Branch Library

A number of outdoor activities and events will be offered to families this summer in the park adjacent to Mission Branch Library, 1098 Lincoln St., every day that weather permits. In addition to croquet, badminton and table tennis, library patrons will have access to soccer balls, frisbees and other sports equipment.

A special feature will be an Imagination Playground, uniquely shaped foam blocks that children can use to create their own playground. Other smaller items will be available for check out to take home.

Capture of Santa Clara Golf & Tennis Club expected this fall

The par 72 Santa Clara Golf Course, just north of Levi’s® Stadium, will see its last round of golf this fall. As of mid-October, that is because the City-owned Santa Clara Golf & Tennis Club (SCG&TC) is closing for the construction of Related Santa Clara, the largest development in Santa Clara history, with site prep work in progress.

Located north of Levi’s® Stadium, Related Santa Clara will be one of the region’s first large-scale mixed-use developments. Upon completion, the 9.2 million square foot project will include 5 million square feet of new office space, 1,880 new residential homes (10 percent of which will be affordable), 1 million square feet of shopping, and dining and entertainment spaces. It will also include the area’s first fitness-focused Equinox Hotel, as well as a second business hotel with 440 rooms, designed to offer the latest in tech-focused hospitality for Silicon Valley’s savvy business traveler.

The burgeoning new center also includes a new 35-acre park adjacent to the city’s existing walking paths. The entire project is steps away from several local and regional public transit options. The development is expected to be a significant economic engine for the city and the region, generating 25,000 jobs and nearly $17 million in taxes, fees and lease revenue annually.

Two recent acquisitions by the Police Department are helping to keep Santa Clara safe by providing law enforcement professionals with updated tools and resources.

A grant from the state Citizens’ Options for Public Safety (COPS) program has funded the purchase of a state-of-the-art Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) vehicle. The CSI vehicle is used to transport evidence team members from the Police Department to crime scenes, critical incidents and injury traffic collisions. The vehicle stores necessary tools and equipment to process a crime scene. The Police Department also recently launched a new, computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system for emergency call handling, officer dispatch and incident management. The outdated and supported dispatch system, the new software suite expands incident response capabilities through map-based views for calls, events and units in the field. Officers also now have new capabilities with their in-car computers, including real-time call information, enhanced mapping and historical data for service to improve efficiency, situational awareness and officer safety. The innovative technology allows police officers and other priority resources based on GPS data and available resources.

Later in 2019, the Police Department will add a mobile evidence vehicle, a Promisepac vehicle, which will improve the flow of information from call to report in one system.

Summer Genealogy Programs

Genealogy programs are offered year round at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd. Other services available include access to an international genealogy collection, including how-to books, historical almanacs and maps, immigration records and Census data for the U.S., California and Santa Clara County. Many genealogical workshops are offered by the Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society. For more information, visit sccalibrary.org.

DNA Special Interest Group

Tuesday, June 4
Learn how others are using DNA testing to enhance their family tree and share your own experiences.

Getting Started with Genealogy: Organization

Thursday, June 6
Learn different organizational methods for both hard copy and digital information you collect in genealogy research. Topics include genealogy programs and what to take on a research trip. The class meets 1-4 p.m.

Search for Your Ancestors in Canadian Records

Tuesday, June 18
This talk by Christine Bell Green, who holds a Certificate in Genealogical Studies from the University of Toronto, will describe Canadian national and provincial records that will help researchers document ancestors in the U.S. who may have spent time in the provinces of Canada. It meets 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Create a Family Tree

Wednesday, June 30
Learn how to create a beautiful family tree using online charting programs. From 5 to 6 p.m., Pamela Brigham, president of the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group, will discuss various types of tree charts including pedigree, descendant, circular. She will also cover how to size and print your chart. For information, visit sccalibrary.org.

German Special Interest Group

Friday, June 28
Join a group of fellow Germanists in an informal group to share what you know, what is difficult and what you would like to learn, noon-1 p.m. This group will meet at the same time and location on Tuesday, July 30 and Friday, Aug. 30. For information on other genealogy programs, visit sccalibrary.org.
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The final draft of the City of Santa Clara Bicycle Master Plan will be discussed at the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting on June 24, 4 p.m., in City Hall Council Chambers, 1500 Warburton Ave. It is tentatively scheduled to be considered for final adoption by the City Council in August.

The plan, more than a year in the making, is the result of an extensive community engagement process that solicited comments from Santa Clara residents, businesses and other stakeholders about how to improve bicycling within the city. There were numerous community outreach events and an online survey to gather ideas and feedback about bicycling needs.

The plan builds upon the current City Bicycle Master Plan and establishes a long-term strategy for improving bicycling in Santa Clara through policy, program and project recommendations. It supports the vision “The City of Santa Clara is a healthy, thriving, and safe city where people of all ages and abilities may easily and comfortably ride a bicycle as part of their daily lives.” A number of specific recommendations are made such as adding more than 71 new miles of bicycle facilities – doubling the number that currently exists within the city. The draft plan can be read on the project’s website, SantaClaraCA.gov/government/bicycle-plan-update.

The City of Santa Clara has long encouraged cycling through the ever-expanding bike lanes and trail networks, educational programs for schools, and promotional events like “Bike to Work Day” and “Bike to School Day.”

The City of Santa Clara has been designated a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists.