

SCENE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO



Walk With Pride
 Celebrate Pride Month with
 the New Rainbow Crosswalk

PLUS: DISCOVER **ART IN UNEXPECTED PLACES** | WHY YOUTH SHOULD **GET VACCINATED** | **LEARN ABOUT PLASTICS** FOR RECYCLING MONTH





I always appreciate a good theme. Whether it's in a novel, a movie or, better yet, the Scene.

This month's Scene is based around the idea of "community." There are a lot of great things happening now--and in the immediate future--all around Cupertino.

I've been pleased to see the outpouring of positive responses regarding the rainbow stripe at Stevens Creek Boulevard and Finch Avenue. The City installed it as a message to say that everyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, is welcome in Cupertino. Read more on Page 6.

The City also recently reopened the Community Garden at McClellan Ranch Preserve. The new garden features 93 raised garden beds, six in-ground beds, and eight ADA-compliant beds. Community Garden is a beautiful, safe, and peaceful refuge for Cupertino residents amidst the fast-paced life of Silicon Valley. Learn more on Page 4.

Breaking news! The ever-popular fountain at the Cupertino Civic Center will be back on this month. The fountain was kept off all of 2020 to ensure there were no mass gatherings. But it's back this year

and I couldn't be more thrilled. I know our families and children are likely excited too. Read all about it on Page 9.

Last, but not least, what is a community without art? In May we highlighted our Cupertino Poet Laureate program. This month we are highlighting art in unexpected places. Take a look on Page 3.

2021 is shaping up to be a whole lot more fun than 2020.

Before I go, happy Father's Day to all the wonderful dads out there.

Deborah Feng
City Manager

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Keep this list of the most useful contacts for the City of Cupertino.

Questions or comments about *The Scene*? Contact staff at scene@cupertino.org.

Art in Unexpected Places

— “Harmony” by Sarabjit Singh

If you visit Blackberry Farm, look for the newly installed artwork near the playground. The mural, entitled *Harmony*, was painted by artist Sarabjit Singh and completed in April. The Fine Arts Commission chose this mural for the pilot Art in Unexpected Places project as a way for the community to reflect on themes and imagery that represent the heritage, natural beauty, and creativity of our city.

The children in the mural *Harmony* represent the culture of Cupertino—one that is diverse, and a representation of our future. Sarabjit also wanted to include habitat, flora, and fauna that can be found in the surrounding area. Sarabjit is a resident of Santa Clara County and a member of the Fine Arts League of Cupertino. She has painted murals for the City of Santa Clara, Sikh Community organizations, and a variety of private commissions.



Street Sweeping Enforcement to Resume on Monday, June 7

The City of Cupertino will resume street sweeping enforcement on Monday, June 7. Enforcement was suspended in early 2020 due to stringent stay-at-home orders. The City has decided to resume enforcement now that the orders have loosened.

General street sweeping schedule is:

- **Residential areas** are swept twice a month. Sweeping generally occurs between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- **Commercial areas** are swept weekly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

- **Foothill Boulevard** is swept weekly between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

The City's robust street sweeping service promotes public health and safety. Regular street sweeping keeps Cupertino roadways clean, beautifies neighborhoods, ensures safer roadways by reducing hazards, and keeps debris and trash from entering and clogging storm drains.

For more information, including schedule maps and notifications, visit cupertino.org/streetsweeping.

What is AlertSCC?

You can never be too prepared for an emergency. One of the most important things you can do is make sure you're connected to receive warnings, information, and instructions by signing up for AlertSCC.

Your ability to receive fast, accurate information can help you survive in an emergency.

AlertSCC can send text or voice messages to cell phones, home phones, personal digital assistants (PDA's), laptops, desktop computers, and TTY/TDD devices for the hearing impaired. AlertSCC can reach you wherever you are to provide information and instructions in a variety of emergency situations, which may include:

1. Flooding, wildfire, earthquake, and subsequent evacuations
2. Public safety incidents, including crimes, that immediately affect your neighborhood
3. Post-disaster information about shelters, transportation, or supplies

Registering for AlertSCC is one of the fastest, easiest, and most immediately productive thing you can do to better prepare for an emergency. It is the one step you should take today. Registering takes minutes, the service is free. AlertSCC is specifically designed to help you manage your actions in an emergency.

Register for AlertSCC at alertscc.com.

Cupertino Community Garden Reopens with Garden Beds

The City of Cupertino is proud to announce the reopening of the Cupertino Community Garden with garden beds available for residents to rent.

The Community Garden is one of the many excellent services the City offers our residents. It's an amenity in Cupertino that promotes healthy living through organic food, low-impact exercise, and social interactions. This nature-focused gathering place strengthens our community bonds and we're very happy to see it reopening.

The original garden was constructed in the 1970s and was in desperate need of a makeover. The Cupertino City Council agreed and approved \$1.3 million in "seed" funding to completely remake the garden.

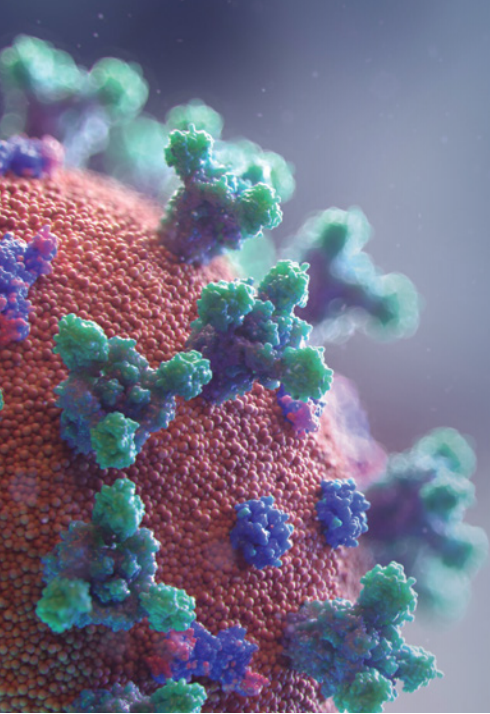
The new garden features 93 raised garden beds, six in-ground beds, and eight ADA-compliant beds. All are six by 16 feet.

"The garden is a beautiful, safe, and peaceful refuge for Cupertino residents amidst the fast-paced lives many of us lead," said Carol Stanek, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission. "The organic garden is not just a benefit for the environment, it's also a benefit for the community."

Cupertino residents can apply for a garden bed through the Parks and Recreation Department.

For more information, visit cupertino.org/gardens





ATTENTION!

Teens and Young Adults

It's Your Turn

For the last 15 months, we have all worried about our families and friends, especially those more susceptible to severe COVID-19 infections. In March 2020, we stayed home. We studied, graduated, and sang happy birthday all from a screen. In December 2020, the first dose of vaccine for COVID-19 was administered and demonstrated the incredible scientific capability of this country. Our families all got the vaccine especially those 65 and older or with underlying health conditions. In April 2021 eligibility for the vaccine expanded for all those aged 16 and older. Even more of our family and friends got the vaccine.

If you have a teen or young person in your life who still has not received their COVID-19 vaccine, it's their turn. All individuals aged 12 and older who live, work, or attend school in Santa Clara County are eligible to be vaccinated. While it's true, younger people are less likely to experience severe symptoms from COVID-19, you may still spread the virus to your older family like grandma and grandpa. No one wants that.

Still, we know the vaccines are safe. All authorized COVID-19 vaccines were tested in large clinical trials with tens of thousands of volunteers of different ages, races, and ethnicities to ensure their safety and effectiveness. The FDA, CDC, State of California, and County of Santa Clara continue to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines to make sure even very rare side effects are identified and appropriate precautions are taken. Some manufacturers are applying for full approval as well, validating all the testing and safety information.

By June 15, 2021, The State of California intends to drastically change and reduce the restrictions we have come to know. All this work means spending the summer getting some sun and hanging out with friends instead of stuck at home in front of a screen. The best way to ensure the restrictions are fully removed and remain that way is to get your vaccine.

A signed consent form is required for each dose of vaccine for those under age 18. A copy of the consent form is available online and at the vaccine site. A link to the consent form is provided during appointment registration at sccfreevax.org.

Parents and teens, make an appointment at sccfreevax.org.

Help bring us all safely into summer 2021.





Spotlighting the County Office of LGBTQ Affairs

The Santa Clara County Office of LGBTQ Affairs is committed to creating strong bridges throughout the County that affirm and embrace the whole person, especially LGBTQ individuals and their families. They work to create inclusive systems of support with a special focus on LGBTQ communities.

Programs and Services:

LGBTQ Wellness: Provides peer-based social, emotional, and mental health support for LGBTQ+ adults in Santa Clara County. Support groups, trainings and workshops, and more. For more information, visit lgbtqwell.org.

Gender Health Center: The GHC, part of Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, is the first and only clinic in the South Bay specializing in care for transgender, non-binary, and gender diverse individuals of all ages.

Step In, Speak Up!: Along with the Behavior Health Services Department, they provide free online trainings for all caring adults who work with middle and high school students to learn LGBTQ terminology, and how to handle certain scenarios with LGBTQ students. For more information or to register your school, email schoolpride@ceo.sccgov.org.

All-Gender Restroom Signs: California law mandates that any single-stall restroom must be designated "All-Gender" by signage. The Office of LGBTQ Affairs currently has a limited supply of signs to provide to businesses.

For more information about these programs and more, visit sccgov.org/sites/lgbta/.



Walk with Pride

Rainbow-Colored Strip Installed to Promote Inclusivity

Walk through Cupertino with pride and check out the newly installed rainbow stripe across Stevens Creek Boulevard at Finch Avenue! The City installed the rainbow crosswalk to say that everyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, is welcome in Cupertino.

The pavement stripe is 12 inches wide and contains the colors of the rainbow, and is easily visible to pedestrians at the intersection. The stripe is made of a thermoplastic material similar to that used for crosswalks, and is melted onto the pavement in order to withstand the wear caused by the high volume of traffic on Stevens Creek Boulevard.



Proclamation

WHEREAS, The City of Cupertino, which is committed to being welcoming and inclusive of all people regardless of their sexual orientation, wishes to celebrate and proclaim June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month in Cupertino;

WHEREAS, June has been recognized as LGBTQ Pride Month since 1970, however, the LGBTQ community has been fighting for basic civil and human rights since the 1960s;

WHEREAS, While considerable progress has been made, unacceptable systemic discrimination and violence continue to threaten LGBTQ community members, with people of color and transgender individuals at the highest risk;

WHEREAS, We in the City of Cupertino stand alongside the LGBTQ community and demand equal rights for all, promoting a world in which all people can live free from discrimination and violence;

WHEREAS, The City Council dedicates the month of June to our LGBTQ family, friends, and neighbors, and recognizes that Cupertino is blessed and enriched by the diversity of our community.

THEREFORE, The Cupertino City Council does hereby Proclaim June 2021 as

LGBTQ Pride Month

and encourage the community to support all people with equity and inclusion, and to treat others with mutual respect and understanding in the City of Cupertino and in our country.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Cupertino to be affixed this Tuesday, June First, Two Thousand and Twenty One.



Plastics Reality Check

Plastics can be convenient, but the unintended consequences are negatively affecting us and our environment. Plastics are a worldwide concern because of litter and leaching harmful chemicals, as well as generating microplastics in the food we eat, the water we drink, and even the air we breathe.

While recycling is part of the solution, it can be confusing. The City of Cupertino's Environmental Programs team is here to break it down for you with some inconvenient truths about plastics:

- Plastic utensils and straws do not get recycled - they should go in the garbage
- "Compostable" plastic cups and containers made from plant-based materials belong in the garbage. They are not accepted in Cupertino's green organics or in the blue recycling carts

- Expanded polystyrene (styrofoam) cups, containers, and packaging materials should always go in the garbage
- Food-soiled or dirty containers of any kind belong in the garbage

The City of Cupertino is exploring a possible ordinance to limit single-use plastic at restaurants, and there are bills at the state and federal level that aim to reduce the use of unnecessary plastic. **You can act now by refusing unwanted plastic utensils when you order food and using plastic-free alternatives whenever possible.**

Interested in learning more about plastics? Visit cupertino.org/nowaste or email environmental@cupertino.org.

Stormwater Parcel Fees to Council for Renewal on June 1

Cupertino's stormwater pollution prevention and storm drainage maintenance activities are funded by two parcel-based fees. One has been in place since 1992, and the second was adopted in 2019. Together, the fees fund work that prevents trash and other pollutants from flowing into local creeks and the Bay where they can harm fish and other wildlife, and ensures maintenance of the storm drainage system to protect local property from flooding. The fees also fund rebates for projects that capture or allow rainwater to soak in rather than run off into the gutter such as permeable pavement driveways, rain gardens, and rain barrels. Information is available at cupertino.org/cleanwater.

Stormwater laws prohibit any pollution—including soapy water, dirt, paint, pool water, and landscaping run-off—from entering storm drains because they lead directly to creeks and the bay.

No increase to the fees is recommended for 2021-2022, but every year City Council considers the renewal of these fees to support this required work.

Eligible low-income residents may apply for a 20% reduction in the 2019 fee via a cost-share program. Apply online at cupertino.org/watercostshare or call the Environmental Programs team at 408-777-3236 for assistance.



WORLD BICYCLE DAY

June 3 is World Bicycle Day. The United Nations General Assembly declared the yearly holiday in 2018, "to emphasize and advance the use of the bicycle as a means of fostering sustainable development, strengthening education, including physical education, for children and young people, promoting health, preventing disease, promoting tolerance, mutual understanding and respect and facilitating social inclusion and a culture of peace."

World Bicycle Day is a great opportunity to remind ourselves that cycling has the incredible potential to reshape our lives. Not only does cycling have immense individual benefits such as improving mental and physical health, but it also has valuable community-wide benefits such as reducing traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. The City of Cupertino recognizes cycling's benefits and is currently in the process of constructing a comprehensive network of bicycle infrastructure laid out in the City's 2016 Bicycle Transportation Plan, which aims to create a safe environment for cyclists of all ages and abilities.

The City of Cupertino encourages residents to participate in this year's World Bicycle Day by taking a bike ride. For information on how to ride safely, please visit: cupertino.org/saferoutes. Enjoy and have fun riding!

#June3WorldBicycleDay



Water Feature

Civic Center fountain expected to be turned on in mid-June

The Cupertino Civic Center fountain is a main attraction throughout late spring, summer, and fall.

As the temperature steadily rises, families gather to take shade under the trees and cool off in the fountain. Children's laughter and shrieks of delight can be heard echoing through the Civic Center plaza.

The fountain is typically turned on to coincide with the opening of the Blackberry Farm swim season, which is tentatively set to open in mid-June. The City expects to have the fountains ready by June 15.

Each year, the City prepares for this time of year by performing maintenance on the fountains. This year's maintenance included the repair of the waterproof coating system and the replacement of defective lights.

Blackberry Farm Swimming Pool Opens On June 15

Reservations will be required for 1:45 hour swim blocks and can be made two weeks in advance. To make a reservation, visit blackberryfarm.org.

Pool Hours:

Tuesday to Friday: noon to 6 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Pool Rates:

Tuesday to Friday	\$6 resident	\$8 non-resident
Saturday and Sunday	\$8 resident	\$10 non-resident

Everyone who enters the pool gates must have a pre-paid reservation, even if they will not be swimming. Children under the age of two are free and do not need a reservation. The rates listed are for each 1:45 hour swim block.

Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the slide will not be open this season.

For more information on picnic reservations, the Blackberry Café, and the swimming pools, visit blackberryfarm.org or call (408) 777-3140.





**It's not too late to register
for a Cupertino summer camp.**

Camps run June 7 through August 13

Register today at

cupertino.org/recreation



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City Directory

City of Cupertino

Department	Phone / Email
Building Department.....	(408) 777-3228 Building@Cupertino.org
Business License.....	(408) 777-3221 BL@Cupertino.org
City Clerk.....	(408) 777-3223 CityClerk@Cupertino.org
City Manager	(408) 777-3212 Manager@Cupertino.org
Code Enforcement.....	(408) 777-3182 Code@Cupertino.org
Planning Department	(408) 777-3308 Planning@Cupertino.org
Recreation	(408) 777-3120 Recreation@Cupertino.org
Senior Center.....	(408) 777-3150 SeniorCntr@Cupertino.org
Sports Center.....	(408) 777-3160 Recreation@Cupertino.org
Street Light Maint.	(408) 777-3342 StreetDivision@Cupertino.org
Street Sweeping	(408) 777-3269 Public_Works@Cupertino.org
Tree Maint.	(408) 777-3410 Public_Works@Cupertino.org

Other Agencies

Organization	Phone Number
Animal Control	(408) 794-7297
AT&T	(800) 331-0500
California Water Service.....	(650) 917-0152
Chamber of Commerce	(408) 252-7054
Comcast	(800) 945-2288
Cupertino Library.....	(408) 540-3947
Cupertino Sanitary District:	(408) 253-7071
Cupertino Union School District	(408) 252-3000
Fremont Union High School District	(408) 522-2200
Hazardous Waste Drop-off	(408) 299-7300
PG&E.....	(800) 743-5000
Project Sentinel (Landlord/Tenant Issues).....	(408) 720-9888
Recology (Garbage & Recycling)	(408) 725-4020
San Jose Water Company	(408) 279-7900
Santa Clara Registrar of Voters.....	(408) 299-6863
VTA (Transportation Authority)	(408) 321-2300
Vector Control, Santa Clara County	(408) 918-4770

First Responders

Emergency Calls.....	911 or (408) 299-3233 (Police, Fire, Medical)
Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office	(408) 299-2311 (Non-Emergency)
Santa Clara County Fire Department.....	(408) 378-4010 (Non-Emergency)

Need to report an issue or have a City-related question?
 Visit: cupertino.org/cupertino311 or call (408) 777-3200.



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