SCENE
A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO

September 2019

PLUS

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I’ve just finished my first three months as City Manager and, I must admit, it’s gone by fast. There’s a lot going on in our fair City.

It’s been a pleasure meeting so many interesting people and reconnecting with my hometown. Whether we’ve sat down in my office or at your home, met at one of our parks as part of the City Walks Series, or chatted in Community Hall before a City Council meeting, I hope you walked away feeling heard. For those of you who I haven’t interacted with yet, I look forward to meeting you soon.

There have been many changes, and our community members want to talk about it. I empathize. I’ve been focused on listening and taking it all in.

I hear about Vallco, Lehigh Cement and Quarry, affordable housing, and traffic congestion. These are the big issues in our community, but they’re not all I’ve heard about.

One question I’m asked is, “What’s the biggest issue facing Cupertino?” My answer: people are looking backward and aren’t facing forward.

Decisions were made that some disagreed with. Longstanding bad feelings exist as a result.

I do not want to minimize it, or say that it’s not important, because historical context is valuable. But I encourage everyone to face forward and focus on the road ahead of us. Cupertino’s future is bright.

There is no problem or issue we cannot solve together. If we can unite, we can become an even stronger community.

Deborah Feng
City Manager

FEATURES

Community Shuttle Riding Into Cupertino
City Council decision will bring relief to transit-starved Cupertino.

Housing Cupertino’s Seniors
Nineteen-unit affordable housing development for seniors now open in Cupertino.

The Bridge with a View
Celebrating 10 Years of the Don Burnett Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge.

A New Kind of Home Makeover
Cupertino partners with nonprofit Rebuilding Together to repair homes of those in need.

Fall Bike Fest
This year’s Bike Fest features a bike rodeo, two guided bike rides, a food truck, local bicycle vendors, and other fun activities.

Community Calendar
Mark your calendars! Find out what’s going on around Cupertino this September.

Questions or comments about The Scene? Contact staff at scene@cupertino.org.
Last month, people across the country celebrated “Women’s Equality Day” to commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Since then women have not only contributed to the country’s political landscape, they have also continued to contribute to the U.S. and local economies.

Entrepreneurship is a key driver of prosperity and competitiveness within Silicon Valley and around the globe. In the United States, women’s entrepreneurship has been on the rise for the last two decades. Based on a report issued by American Express OPEN, as of January 2017 there were an estimated 11.6 million women-owned businesses in the United States that employed nearly 9 million people and generated more than $1.7 trillion in revenues. Over the past 20 years (1997–2017), the number of women-owned businesses has grown 114% compared to the overall national growth rate of 44% for all businesses. Women-owned businesses now account for 39% of all U.S. firms, employ 8% of the total private sector workforce, and contribute 4.2% of total business revenues.

While on the surface this growth is positive news, more can be done to create conditions in which women entrepreneurs can thrive. The Cupertino community is proud to be home to a large population of entrepreneurs and independently-owned small businesses. The City of Cupertino supports local businesses by providing access to resources, free workshops and trainings, as well as individual assistance through the permitting process. Additionally, as the Economic Development Manager, I host a monthly networking group specifically for local women business owners/operators and professionals to provide women the opportunity to network amongst their peers in a comfortable environment.

These Cupertino Business & Professional Women’s Group monthly networking events are typically held on the fourth Thursday of each month during lunchtime at different locations throughout the City. For more information, please contact me at angelat@cupertino.org.

 Cupertino is located in the transit desert of west Santa Clara County, lacking convenient access to regional rail lines like Caltrain, VTA Light Rail, BART, ACE, and Amtrak. With growing traffic congestion, worsening air quality, and a Bay Area housing crunch, Cupertino residents—and thousands of workers who commute to Cupertino daily—have had few other options. Until now.

Your ride awaits.

In June 2019, the Cupertino City Council approved an 18-month pilot program for an on-demand community shuttle powered by Via. The Council approval will soon bring on-demand shuttles to all of Cupertino, connecting to Caltrain for the first time ever. The fleet will feature 10 modern, six-passenger Mercedes-Metris vans, each with bike racks and ADA accessible.

**Coming in fall 2019. Cupertino & beyond for $5**

Expected to start in Fall 2019, the pilot program will operate for 18 months. The fare will be $5 for any trip within Cupertino or to Caltrain. Affordable weekly passes will be available, along with reduced fares for low-income riders, seniors, and students.

No stations. Go where you want, when you want.

On-demand shuttles have no stations or confusing routes. Vans are requested using a mobile app or by phone. The app shows the van’s location and arrival time, usually arriving within 15 to 17 minutes. Able-bodied riders are asked to walk a short distance (200 to 300 feet) to catch the shuttle, which makes the trips faster. Once aboard, passengers will make their way to their destination and others will board heading in the same direction, removing traffic from Cupertino streets and sparing the air. Mobility impaired riders may request door-to-door pickup.

Go anywhere in Cupertino and beyond. All are welcome.

The shuttle service area is anywhere in Cupertino (including Rancho San Antonio Open Space), with select locations outside of Cupertino: Sunnyvale Caltrain, Mountain View Caltrain, Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara, El Camino Hospital, and West Valley Medical Center. Riders ages 14+ may ride (minors with parental consent). Cupertino residents, visitors, and workers are all welcomed and encouraged to ride.

To keep up on the latest community shuttle news, visit [www.cupertino.org/shuttle](http://www.cupertino.org/shuttle).
Recently, the Cupertino community celebrated the opening of The Veranda, a 19-unit affordable housing development. Eighteen units are age-restricted for extremely-low and very-low income senior citizens 62 and older. One unit is set aside for a property manager.

Through the assistance of Santa Clara County Measure A funds, six units are reserved as permanent supportive housing units for homeless seniors with disabling conditions. The Veranda is one of the first developments to take advantage of Measure A funding. The City of Cupertino contributed $3.672 million in funds, another $1 million through the Housing Trust Silicon Valley, and an additional $500,000 in HOME Investment Partnership Funds (HOME) for a total contribution of $5,172,000, which accounts for approximately 43% of the development costs.

The Veranda property is located on a .56-acre site on Stevens Creek Boulevard directly across the street from Main Street Cupertino, which has retail stores and restaurants. The Veranda is a place where seniors can move into a mixed-use neighborhood where they can live, work, and play.

The studio apartments are approximately 350 square feet and include complete kitchens, ADA-accessible bathrooms, and patios or balconies. An elevator provides service to all three floors of the building and on-site parking.

The development also falls in line with the City’s sustainability efforts outlined in its 2015 Climate Action Plan. The plan defines strategies to increase energy efficiency in existing homes and buildings and increase use of renewable energy community-wide. The apartments include green building features such as Energy Star appliances, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and energy-efficient lighting.
The Bridge with a View:
Celebrating 10 Years of the Don Burnett Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge

History
Originally the Mary Avenue Bicycle Footbridge, the idea was initially proposed in the early 1990s when bicycle enthusiasts and numerous committees and organizations banded together to advocate for the project. The goals were to close a critical gap in the Santa Clara County bike path network and emphasize Cupertino’s commitment to alternative transportation. The original plan had the bridge constructed out of concrete, but when that ended up significantly exceeding the budget, a new design was created with steel instead, giving new life to what was thought to be a dead project. The bridge started construction in February 2008 and opened for use in April 2009, marking this year as its 10-year anniversary. In 2011, the bridge was renamed to the Don Burnett Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge in honor of the former City Councilmember and longtime bike-ped enthusiast.

Bridge Facts
• It is the only cable-stayed pedestrian bridge over a highway in California
• Total length is approximately 503 feet, the main span between the two towers is 325 feet
• Each tower is about 90 feet tall and weighs approximately 57,000 pounds

What Are They Saying on Yelp?

Gill Roy, San Jose
Overall, this is a pretty nice place to walk, run, or bike. At night time, it lights up and looks absolutely beautiful. Bring a friend and take photos for social media or just for yourself for memories. This is truly a jewel for the City of Cupertino.

Annie, San Francisco
I love this bridge... Watching and listening to cars zoom by on the 280 is surprisingly soothing... It feels as though you pressed pause on your life while the rest of the world continues to gogogo. I come here whenever I'm sad or stressed, and I've made many important decisions on this bridge.

Lincy, Union City
I cross the bridge nearly every day while bike commuting to work. What an awesome architectural landmark... Well named, too. Don Burnett fought long and hard to fund construction. I praise his foresight and perseverance every time I cross 280 in an auto-free environment (except when I look down 😆).

Pete, Cupertino
Bring your date here for an evening stroll and it'll be fantastic. Bring some of your favorite friends in the world to take cute silly pictures with each other to document your amazing friendship together. Bring your DSLR camera for exceptional photography for your portfolio. And even bring yourself to just enjoy the views and take a breather when life just isn’t going your way.
It all started with the simple act of neighbors helping neighbors. Rebuilding Together began in 1973 when a small group noticed homes in their community had fallen into disrepair, so they stepped up and volunteered their time and skills to help their neighbors. Today, Rebuilding Together is the leading national nonprofit organization with a mission to repair the homes of people in need and revitalize neighborhoods. Nearly 100,000 volunteers complete about 10,000 rebuilding projects each year, installing water heaters, heating, new kitchen appliances, flooring, decks, steps, walkways, safety grab bars, wheelchair ramps/lifts, fire and carbon alarms, doors/locks, and much more.

The City of Cupertino supports Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley through the Community Development Block Grant Program to serve families, people with disabilities, and seniors who own their homes throughout the City. Rebuilding Together has repaired thousands of homes, and in Cupertino alone it has repaired more than 120 homes in the last 12 years.

One of those homes was for Thelma and Gurney, Cupertino homeowners since 1962. Aging and managing their health made it difficult to take care of critical repairs in their home. Rebuilding Together saw their need and was able to install several safety modifications—grab bars, an elevated toilet, a shower seat—in addition to rebuilding their back deck and adding a ramp, replacing their appliances, and giving the house a fresh coat of paint. “We were truly blessed to be selected by Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley. They were very efficient, knowledgeable, kind, and understanding of our needs,” Thelma wrote to the organization. “Thank you for making our life easier, more comfortable, and manageable.”

This past April, Rebuilding Together hosted a county-wide Spring Rebuilding Day, which brought more than 1,000 volunteers to 36 work sites across Santa Clara County. In total, volunteers laid down 2,332 square feet of carpet, used 570 gallons of paint, and cleared 450 cubic yards of debris. In Cupertino, volunteers from the Cupertino Rotary Club and the Church of the Latter-day Saints pitched in at the Morehouse and the Miracle House, facilities run by the Pacific Autism Center for Education, a nonprofit that provides programs for individuals with autism and associated developmental disabilities in the Bay Area.

In May, RTSV and a group of about 40 volunteers helped with repairs at the Vista Village Apartments, a low-income housing complex in Cupertino that houses approximately 50 residents. The building was exacerbated by the longer than average rainy season, and has been dealing with minor flooding issues for the past few years. The team of volunteers helped level out the grassy areas and planted new trees and drought-resistant plants.

September is National Falls Prevention Month. Rebuilding Together will assess the home of eligible homeowners so they can live in a safe and healthy home for as long as they are able. Learn more about their “Safe at Home” program, which helps seniors to age in place with dignity, on their website. For questions, or to apply for critical home safety repairs, call (408) 578-9519 or visit www.rtsv.org.
On Saturday, September 28, Cupertino Safe Routes to School and the Bicycle Pedestrian Commission will host the 6th Annual Fall Family Bike Fest from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cupertino City Hall. This year’s Bike Fest will feature a bike rodeo, free bike checks, two guided bike rides, a food truck, local bicycle vendors, educational clinics, and other fun activities.

The rodeo will consist of a bicycle skills course and an obstacle course with wooden ramps to teach young riders how to ride safely. The rodeo will be hosted by leading bicycle education experts, Safe Moves.

There will be two bike rides offered at the festival. The rides are open to families of all ages, but riders under the age of 18 will need an adult’s signature. The bike rides will be chaperoned by experienced cyclists and will start and end at City Hall. This will allow riders to participate in the bike rodeo before and after the rides. Both the short ride and the long ride will depart at 10:30 a.m.

There is no need to RSVP for this free event. Make sure to arrive by 9:00 a.m. to check in and grab some pre-ride fuel.


National Preparedness Month is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster and emergency planning. The City of Cupertino’s Office of Emergency Services coordinates effective disaster response and recovery efforts. Through planning, training, and exercising, OES prepares and empowers response personnel and community members to minimize the risks to life, safety, property, and the environment. Below are some tips on how to get started preparing your home in the event of a disaster.

- **Save early for disaster costs.** Check your insurance coverage, and document your personal belongings to help file insurance claims. Download the Emergency Financial First Aid Kit, which will walk you through the planning process: [go.usa.gov/xypkQ](http://go.usa.gov/xypkQ).
- **Make a plan to prepare for disasters.** Make a fire escape plan for your family, and practice two ways out of every room. Learn your evacuation zone and ARK locations. Prepare your emergency supplies and a to-go kit: [ready.gov/kit](http://ready.gov/kit).
- **Teach youth to prepare for disasters.** Teach children what to do in an emergency if they are at home or away from home. Help them learn how to communicate with text messages, know emergency contact numbers, and to dial 9-1-1. Get them involved in building their own emergency kit, and include your child’s favorite toys, games, or books to comfort them in a disaster. [ready.gov/kids](http://ready.gov/kids).
- **Get involved in your community’s preparedness.** Cupertino’s Citizen Corps support local emergency responders through Cupertino Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CARES), the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). To learn how to get involved and join the CERT Academy in Cupertino this September, visit [Cupertino.org/oesvolunteer](http://Cupertino.org/oesvolunteer).
**National Video Game Day**
Thursday, September 12,
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m
Cupertino Teen Center,
21111 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Make sure you have plenty of snacks and your favorite games. Get your friends together at the Teen Center for a marathon session! Friends, new games, retro games, munchies, and beverages and you’re ready to go!

**Bobatino**
Saturday, September 21,
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Main Street Park, Cupertino
School just started, homework is already piling on, SAT prep is in full swing, feeling the stress yet? Take a Saturday off to chill with the Cupertino Teen Commission and attend Bobatino, an event for hanging out with your friends, drinking free boba, and snacking hard! Student ID must be provided to attend.

**Chocolate Milk Day**
Tuesday, September 27,
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Cupertino Teen Center,
21111 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Are you someone who enjoys the tasty combination of milk and chocolate? Come enjoy a frosty glass at the Teen Center on National Chocolate Milk Day which is observed annually on September 27.

**Goodwill Fundraising Drive**
Sat., Sept. 28, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 29, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Cupertino High School,
Band Parking Lot
10100 Finch Avenue
Acceptable items include books, household items, clothing, shoes, toys, and e-waste. For questions, email tinograd@gmail.com.

**West Coast Farmers Market**
Every Sunday,
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Oaks Shopping Center
Stop by the West Coast Farmers Market every Sunday in the Oaks Shopping Center parking lot. For more information visit [wctma.org](http://wctma.org).

**Creekside Farmers Market**
Every Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Creekside Park, 10455 Miller Avenue
Stop by the Creekside Farmers Market every Friday at Creekside Park in Cupertino. For more information visit [www.pcfma.org](http://www.pcfma.org).

**Movie in the Park – Shazam!**
Fri., September 6, 6 p.m. – 9:45 p.m.
Portal Park, 10225 N Portal Ave.
Catching a movie in the park on our giant screen is the perfect chance to enjoy a fun FREE night out with family and friends. Come early, bring a blanket and a picnic, and get a good seat.

**Join a Ranger – Apex Predator Workshop**
Saturday, September 7,
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Blackberry Farm,
21979 San Fernando Ave.
Learn about local Apex Predators like coyotes and owls, and how they play an important role in the ecology of their environment. Enjoy a hands-on activity making animal track casts followed by a short nature walk to explore the surrounding habitat.

**Bollywood Night**
Saturday, September 7,
5:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Library Field, 10400 Torre Ave.
This event includes a delicious Indian food truck, face painting, balloon animals, bounce castle, a rock climbing wall, and a hula hoop instructor! Also, enjoy interactive Bollywood-style dance lessons from local professionals. At dusk, enjoy the blockbuster film: 3 Idiots. The movie will be in Hindi with English subtitles.

**Ride4Diabetes**
Sunday, September 8,
9:00 a.m.
Memorial Park,
21121 Stevens Creek Blvd
The mission is simple. De Anza Lions Club seeks to advance the research, treatment, and cure for diabetes. Choose between two beautiful scenic bike routes, get a free diabetes screening, and enjoy a fun and festive day for a great cause! Register at [https://tiny.cc/r4d](https://tiny.cc/r4d).

**Fall Festival**
Saturday, September 14,
10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Memorial Park,
21121 Stevens Creek Blvd
The Fall Festival is a community, family, cultural and education venue that has activities, entertainment, hands-on workshops, kids zone, food court, drone demonstrations, and a robotics competition.
**CUPERTINO LIBRARY**

For more information on library programs, visit the Events section of the Cupertino Library’s website at secl.org/cupertino.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**

Family Storytime
Saturdays, 10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Cupertino Library Parent’s Corner
Enjoy music, stories, and rhymes for ages 3 and up.

Reading Buddies
Thursday & Monday, September 5 & 9, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Cupertino Library Story Room
K-5th grade. Improve your reading aloud skills, pronunciation skills, and self-confidence. Join the library for Reading Buddies and read to a patient and quiet therapy animal. Registration opens the third Monday of the month for the following month’s sessions. Register in-person at the Children’s Reference Desk.

**TEEN PROGRAMS**

“The Importance of Standardized Testing in College Admissions”
Workshop with Flex Prep
Wednesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Cupertino Library Story Room
This seminar provides an inside look at the world of standardized testing. Come learn the differences between the SAT, PSAT, and ACT, and how colleges will use these test results in the application process. Determine which test is a better fit for your student, which test dates to consider, and when to begin preparation. Develop a testing timeline and schedule a complimentary follow-up consultation to discuss your student’s specific needs! Registration is required.

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

Courtyard Concert Series: The Great American Songbook
Saturday, September 21, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Cupertino Library Courtyard
Join the Library in the courtyard for timeless tunes from the Great American Songbook. Janet Sumpter will sing and accompany herself on guitar.

For more info on the Senior Center, or to sign up for classes or events, visit cupertino.org/senior or stop by 21251 Stevens Creek Boulevard.

**EVENTS & SOCIALS**

The Better Part Presents: “Searching for Extraterrestrial”
Monday, September 9, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Learn about the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) Institute in Mountain View, CA and how they search for radio signals that might have been sent towards Earth from intelligent life forms in the universe. Discussion to follow presentation. Open to the public. Sign up online or at the lobby table.

Clean Indoor Air
Wednesday, September 11, 1:30 p.m.
Most seniors spend ninety percent of their time indoors. This presentation by Breathe California explains the sources of poor indoor air quality and inexpensive remedies. Members free, senior guests pay $5 day pass. Sign up online at the lobby table.

End of Summer Staff Softball Game and BBQ
Thursday, September 12, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Come watch and cheer on the 50+ Sandlot Geezers as they take on Parks and Recreation Staff at the softball field in Memorial Park. Lunch will be served afterwards which includes a cheeseburger with all the fixings, a beverage, and chips. Member fee $9, senior guests add $5. Sign up online or at the front desk.

September Birthday Bash Luncheon
Wednesday, September 18, 12:00 p.m.
Grab your hat and boots and ride in on this country-theme luncheon to enjoy friend chicken, mashed potatoes, biscuits, and peach cobbler. Preregistration required. Members $12, senior guests add $5 day pass. Sign up online or at the front desk.

Monthly Movie: The Intern
Wednesday, September 25, 1:30 p.m.
Enjoy this comedy of seventy-year-old Ben Whittaker (Robert De Niro) as he jumps at the chance to rejoin the workforce and becomes an intern for an online fashion site founded by Jules Ostin (Anne Hathaway). Popcorn and lemonade will be served. Members free, senior guests add $5 day pass.

**SENIOR CENTER**

**CLASSES & PRESENTATIONS**

OverDrive Workshop
Wednesday, September 4, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Borrow eBooks and audiobooks from your library using OverDrive on any Internet-connected device and have access to over 30,000 libraries worldwide. Santa Clara County Library card required. Preregistration required. Members free, senior guests pay $5. Sign up online or at the front desk.

Syncing, Back-up, and Storage
Thursday, September 5-26, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Own an Apple Computer or MacBook and want to learn more about iCloud features for your photos? Learn from Instructor Roz Schiros on how to sync, back-up, and store your photos from your iPad or iPhone to your MacBook. Member fee $22.

Nutrition Made Easy: Feel Energized Discussion
Friday, September 20, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Increase your energy with some simple and easy-to-incorporate tips and techniques that will add some pep in your step with Instructor Jen Oh. Member fee $25.

Nutrition Made Easy: Super Foods Cooking Workshop
Monday, September 30, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Cook with superfoods, the foods with the biggest nutritional bang for the calories. You will make three and delicious dishes with Instructor Jen Oh that you get to take home to enjoy later! Recipes can be adapted to accommodate all diets and food preferences. Member fee $40.
Question: I see that some of my neighbors leave their trash and recycling cans out on the curb all week. Can they do that?

Answer: The City of Cupertino encourages its residents to properly store their trash and recycling containers between pickups while choosing a level of trash service that is adequate for the properties.

The City has an ordinance that regulates how long trash and recycle containers can be stored at the curb. Cupertino Municipal Code Section 6.24.070(D) specifies that containers shall be placed no more than 24 hours before the scheduled collection time and must be removed within 24 hours after collection.

To view your waste collection schedule, visit recology.com/recology-south-bay/cupertino/collection-calendar.

Jeffrey Trybus is a CACEO Certified Senior Code Enforcement Officer currently assigned to the uniform division of code enforcement located in the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office West Valley Substation. He assists the Sheriff’s Office with non-emergency calls for service and enforces the municipal code and parking regulations.