

City Manager's Weekly Update

March 8, 2019

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Code Compliance Inspections and Rental Program:

The City of Santa Cruz Code Compliance Division provides an essential service to the city of Santa Cruz by implementing the housing, building, zoning, and environmental regulations to assure property owner and tenants reside in a legal and safe residence.

The following information is documented examples of substandard, hazardous conditions, found during Code and Rental inspections between February 26th and March 6th, 2019.



Pitted single wall water heater flue. Poses a carbon monoxide hazard in an enclosed space. This particular duct is inside a garage.



This is an exposed 100 AMP power supply that is the main feed for a house and is coming from the PG&E power pole. Due to its exposure, the 100 AMP power supply poses a potential shock hazard.



Unpermitted construction addition being supported up by 2x4s, a substandard foundation support that has the potential to collapse.



Live electrical service wires within arm distance from the front porch that poses an electrical hazards for adults and children.



Inspection revealed an unpermitted, substandard water heater installed where a day care center was being conducted and the occupants were exposed to unsafe CO. Code, Rental and Building worked diligently to assist the occupants and property owner address the hazards within 24 hrs.



The accumulation of stored items has made this property a blight to the neighborhood and a hazard to the occupants.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Arana Gulch

The new boxes are a hit with the birds and birders! A special thanks to the Santa Cruz Bird Club for assisting Parks staff choose the type and location.



Wharf

Storm debris cleanup continued on Main Beach. On the Wharf itself the crew paved a hole in the trestle section roadway. In the dive locker the crew removed a WW2 dive compressor to make much needed storage space



Garfield Park

Urban forestry had trees pruned at Garfield Park, performing minor end weight reduction and removal of dead material in order to improve public safety and promote tree health.

Before



After



Civic

The Santa Cruz Symphony will present the annual Family Concert at the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium on Sunday March 10 at 2pm. Following the program we will have our **INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO** where children of all ages can actually try out various instruments and talk to some of the orchestra musicians. The Santa Cruz Symphony will once again be joined by members of the [Santa Cruz County Youth Symphony](#), [Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre](#), [Cabrillo Youth Chorus](#), and [Kuumbwa Jazz Honor Band](#) for this production. We will also have artwork from the [Kirby School](#) art students displayed in the lobby of the Civic. [Tickets are still available at SantaCruzTickets.com.](#)



Louden Nelson Community Center

Pacific Collegiate School presents the final three performances of *The Sound of Music* in the Auditorium on Saturday, March 9th at 2pm and 7pm, and Sunday, March 10th at 2pm.



POLICE

SCPD Mission

The mission of the Santa Cruz Police Department is to serving selflessly and compassionately, through collaboration and innovation. We will relentlessly pursue criminals to protect all life and the property of all within our community. We chose to be transparent and responsive while striving for excellence.



SCPD VALUES

Lead through competent, engaged and trustworthy behavior that is diverse like Santa Cruz.

Communicate openly, transparently, and frequently.

Serve our community with compassion, innovation, and responsiveness.

Provide safety that improves the quality of life and wellness for all.

Exude professionalism through knowledge, respect, and loyalty.

Collaborate through partnerships, empowerment, and teamwork with focused direction, for the maintenance of order.

Chief Meets with Seabright Neighborhood

This week Police Chief Mills, as well as City Council representatives and Congressman Panetta's staff, met with community members in the Seabright neighborhood to discuss the February 15th DHS raid that served a search warrant.

In the early morning hours of Friday, February 15th, 2019, Homeland Security Investigation's personnel executed a night service authorized federal search warrant in the 500 block of Windsor Street in Santa Cruz.



Santa Cruz police officers were not part of the warrant's service, the investigation, nor were SCPD facilities used.

Santa Cruz Police Department recognizes the fear our community has surrounding the enforcement of immigration law. SCPD supports Council policy and affirms that vulnerable community members should not live in fear of detention, deportation, or separation from their children based solely on immigration status.

Our department policy #428 addresses immigration status explicitly stating, "The immigration status of individuals alone is not a matter for police action." SCPD's policy manual in its entirety is available [online](#).

SCPD works daily to develop and build trust with all of our communities, including the migrant community. Establishing stable relationships is vital to keeping our neighborhoods safe.

Ongoing Efforts to Address Homeless

This past Tuesday 3/5/19, in three separate incidents, SCPD & SCFD responded to two deaths and a fire at the Ross Encampment. The cause of death in both cases are not suspicious. A camper cooking inside of a tent caused the fire.

SCPD is continuously working to provide assistance to the homeless in our community and hold those accountable who break the law. We also understand that we cannot resolve the issue of homelessness alone.

Collaboration with our County partners, Mental Health & Addiction services, City resources, our neighboring cities, and other public and private resources is the key to reducing the homeless presence, not only in our community but everywhere.



Outstanding Fugitive in Custody for 2009 Homicide

After nearly ten years on the run. SCPD never gave up the hunt to track down Ivan Ramirez Tapia.

The Santa Cruz Police Department in cooperation with the Santa Cruz County District Attorney's Office booked Ivan Ramirez Tapia for an outstanding

warrant relating to the 2009 homicide of Tyler Tenorio.

With the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Mr. Tapia was located and arrested by Mexican authorities, and extradited to the United States. Mr. Tapia booked into county jail on a no-bail warrant.

Check out other SCPD Cold Cases available on www.santacruzpolice.com . Even if you have second- or third-hand information about what happened in a case, it may be the missing piece of the puzzle that helps us to solve the mystery.

Read Across America Week

Santa Cruz Police Officer Kendall and CSO Andrade-Silva celebrated “Read Across America” preschool and pre-kinder students at Holy Cross School this week. Officer Kendall read the book, “Let’s Meet a Police Officer” by Gina Bellisario from the book series “Community Helpers” and answered questions about being a police officer.



It’s always a great day when you start with a good book and then get to turn on the lights & sirens on a real patrol car. Read Across America is a nationwide reading celebration that takes thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers hosts event to motivate children to read books.

LIBRARY

New Display: Celebrating International Women's Day

The Downtown Branch Library is hosting a new display by the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA) on celebrating international women's day by highlighting statistics on socio-economic conditions for women all over the world. Photos courtesy of Anna A.



Legally Speaking: Elder Law and Abuse



Thursday • March 14 • 6:00pm - 7:00pm

[Downtown Library](#) • 224 Church St.

Local attorneys Anna M. Penrose-Levig of Penrose Chun & Gorman, LLP, Pamela Simmons of Simmons & Purdy, and Assistant District Attorney William Atkinson will provide information regarding how seniors in our community can protect themselves. The presenters will address a variety of common situations including different examples of financial elder abuse and various types of fraud commonly targeting seniors. The presentation will address legal and practical tools that seniors can use to protect themselves from being victimized, as well as how they may be able to recover money and property wrongfully taken from them.

William Atkinson will share information about: current types of scams being perpetrated against seniors and consumers in Santa Cruz County; how to identify and prevent falling victim to these types of scams; who to report these scams to; and tips to remember before responding to an unsolicited offer via the telephone, mail, email, or at your front door.

Anna M. Penrose-Levig will share information about how seniors can protect themselves with basic estate planning tools. She will also provide information about civil lawsuits that can be brought to address financial elder abuse.

Pamela Simmons will share information about the many different ways scammers seek to rob seniors of their savings, home equity or even just their piece of mind.

Legally Speaking is a new free monthly series of discussions with Q & A on various legal and financial life event topics. In the series, Santa Cruz County Bar Association recommended lawyers and finance/business professionals answer questions about the most frequently experienced legal issues faced by people in our community. These discussions will take place at various locations throughout the county on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

About the Presenters:

Anna M. Penrose-Levig advises clients in estate and trust matters and assists clients with the initiation and review of estate plans, including simple wills and revocable trusts. Her practice includes the probate of estates, the non-probate post-mortem administration of living trusts, estate planning, estate and trust litigation, and civil litigation. She has been practicing law since 2003 and is a member of the State Bars of California and Nevada. Prior to joining Penrose Chun & Gorman LLP, Ms. Penrose-Levig was Assistant General Counsel to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, where she was employed from 2007 to 2014. As Assistant General Counsel, Ms. Penrose-Levig defended Commission decisions on appeal in both Nevada District Court and before the Supreme Court of Nevada, and represented the Commission as a party to proceedings at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Prior to joining the Commission, Ms. Penrose-Levig practiced at Broad Counsel Partners in San Diego from 2003 to 2007, where she focused on corporate, transactional, and estate planning matters.

William Atkinson has worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Santa Cruz County since 2001. He is currently the Supervisor of the District Attorney's Consumer Fraud and Environmental Protection Unit, which handles all types of white collar criminal fraud cases including real estate fraud, insurance fraud, elder financial abuse, and welfare fraud, as well as enforcement of the Consumer and Environmental Protection Laws. Prior to becoming an Assistant District Attorney, Mr. Atkinson was in private practice for 15 years handling civil litigation and criminal defense.

Pamela D. Simmons is a partner in the law firm of Simmons & Purdy located in Soquel, California. From 1992 through 1994, before starting in private practice, Ms. Simmons was an Assistant District Attorney prosecuting real estate, mortgage and other white collar frauds in Santa Cruz County, California. Ms. Simmons is an expert on the application of the Federal Truth in Lending Act (TILA) to home refinance transactions. She is also an expert in secured real estate transactions. She has written articles regarding such matters for both the American Bar Association and the California Real Estate Reporter. She has been a co-author of the Roger Bernhard's California Mortgage and Deed of Trust Practice, published by the CEB since 2006. Ms. Simmons has been called upon to act as an Expert Witness in excess of ten cases since 2002. She is routinely quoted in such publications as the Wall Street Journal, Money Magazine and Business Week and in other local newspapers. She teaches Secured Real Estate Transactions at Lincoln Law School in San Jose, California. She has had the privilege of presented on the subject of home mortgages lending law, predatory lending and/or mortgage fraud at the American Bar Association's Annual Real Estate Symposia, the National Association of Consumer Attorneys, the San Francisco Bar Association, the Santa Cruz Bar Association and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys.

PUBLIC WORKS

Resource Recovery

Cowell Coffee Shop for the People is our newest certified Green Business.

Last week we processed 157.24 tons of mixed recycling, 52.33 tons of cardboard, 849 tons of refuse, 186 tons of wood and green waste, and 143 tons of fill material. We shipped out 143.21 tons of processed recyclables.

The Resource Recovery Facility received a new water truck last week which will be used for dust control, grinding operations, vehicle maintenance (cleaning), and fire control.



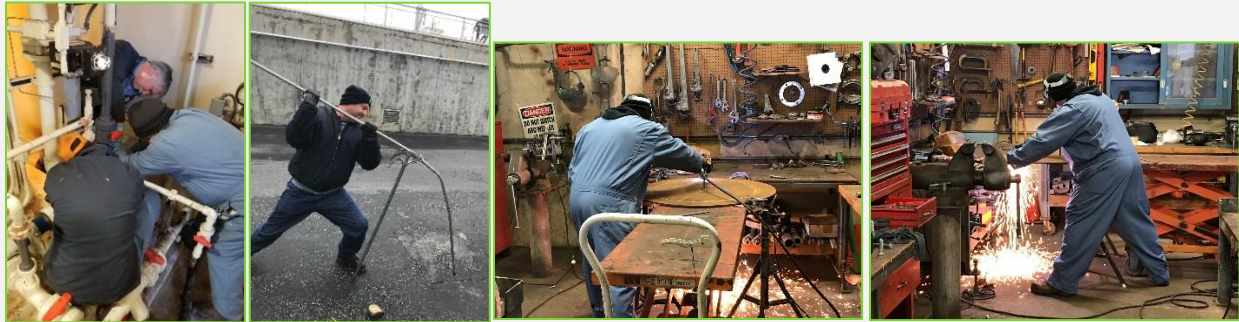
Engineering

The San Lorenzo River Parkway Phase III/Trestle Trail Project continues this week with the removal of existing wood deck, guardrail and stringers along the existing pedestrian bridge; installation of access ladders and platforms to scaffolding; installation of handrail at scaffolding; and forming and pouring the seat for abutment number 4, at the east end of the bridge. The project, funded by the City of Santa Cruz, Measure D and a California Natural Resources Agency Grant, is widening the existing San Lorenzo River trestle walkway and is expected to conclude before this summer.



Wastewater Treatment Facility

Staff has been busy with service requests and lending a hand interdepartmentally to get through these winter storms. Mechanics replaced a leaking check valve on a bulk chemical tank; electricians fabricated new conduit; and the maintenance team created a custom sewer manhole cover needed for line maintenance.



Traffic Engineering/Community Relations

Don't be a statistic: Cell phone use causes 1.6 million car crashes each year. Read more of this Street Smarts message in English and Spanish [here](#) or click the photos to watch the videos.

