

City Manager's Weekly Update

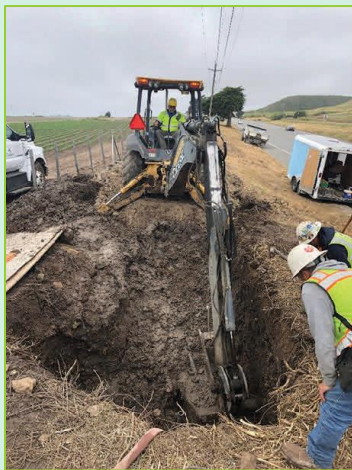
June 21, 2019

WATER

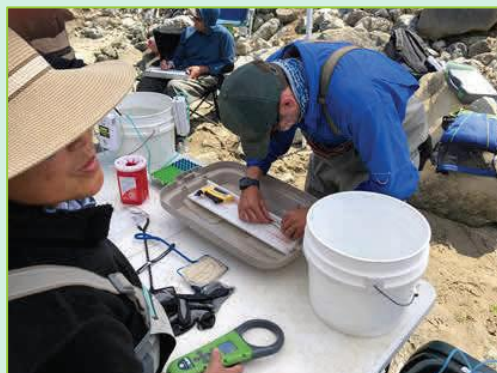
Keeping drinking water flowing 24 hours/ 7 days a week/ 365 days a year takes teamwork and persistence. For instance:

There were 18 properties left without drinking water this week due to a break on the treated water main running up the North Coast outside the City limits. Water Distribution staff worked for about 24 hours making the repairs which was no small feat given the fact that the main was buried 12 feet below grade.

To help minimize the impact to customers, gallon jugs of drinking water were delivered to those affected. As of Wednesday, drinking water service was restored.



San Lorenzo River lagoon steelhead trout fish surveys began this week. Water staff are happy to report there were high numbers of fish. We gently measure, classify and count fish to better understand our impacts and the health of the watershed. Larger fish are tagged so we can identify the anadromous salmonids when they return to spawn later in life.



POLICE

SCPD Volunteers Rolling Out In Patrol Cars

This week, Volunteers in Policing Services (VIPS) begin cruising city streets in retrofit patrol cars. SCPD Volunteers patrol on foot, bikes and now in cars through neighborhoods, downtown, beach and areas frequently hit by property crimes.

"We are proud our volunteer program continues to expand", said Chief Mills. "These VIPS patrols provide a deterrent to crime and a feeling of security for citizens and visitors by remaining highly visible in the community. "

Volunteers in Policing Services are trained community members who enhance our public safety services and support for the department by freeing up officers for higher priority duties.



Their new ride is complete with lights, radio and a police patch with VOLUNTEER printed on the side.

Our volunteers serve as an extra set of eyes and ears for the department. Patrol duties include observing and reporting any unusual or suspicious activities to SCPD officers. While on patrol, volunteers can pick up found property, direct traffic at

vehicle collisions, and assist disabled motorists.

The volunteers said they hoped the new patrols would make their neighborhoods safer, either by helping police make an arrest or by deterring crime before it happens.

"I like knowing that we can help the officers. We can take away some of the non-urgent things that sworn officers don't need to do. For example, we can sit and wait on a tow truck that doesn't need to take up their time," said Margie Way.

VIPS do not carry weapons or have powers of arrest. They wear gray and khaki uniforms and drive vehicles issued by the SCPD so they are easily recognized. We appreciate their dedication and commitment to making our community a better place.

More info about SCPD VIPS <http://bit.ly/2WJFmdT>

SPCD Officer of the Month

This week, SCPD recognized Office Taylor Trueblood as Employee of the Month for April.



"He's exceptional at proactive policing. Trueblood is a well-rounded, professional police officer whose volume of work speaks for itself "said, Chief Mills.

- Officer Trueblood was instrumental in assisting the Neighborhood Policing Team's enforcement efforts in the downtown area by making several felony arrests.
- He spearheaded several investigations that are the primary factor in establishing stay-away orders for over half a dozen chronic offenders on the Pacific Garden Mall.
- Officer Trueblood's exemplary patrol work was also demonstrated by his becoming one of the first certified Drug Recognition Evaluators in SCPD history. He totaled nine (9) DUI arrests in 2019, in addition to all the other demanding calls for service on a standard patrol shift.
- In the last month, Officer Trueblood also conducted a detailed investigation of a residential burglary, which ultimately led to the arrest and prosecution of a habitual felon with multiple prior residential and commercial burglary convictions. Officer Trueblood exemplifies all of the qualities and character traits we expect from an officer at SCPD.

LIBRARY

Summer Reading Program events at YOUR libraries!
Free & for all ages!



NorCalBats Visits Garfield Park Branch Library

Tuesday, June 25th • 12:30pm - 1:30pm
Garfield Park Branch Library, 705 Woodrow Avenue

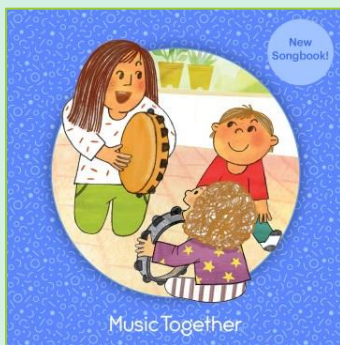
NorCalBats is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of bats throughout Northern California. Live bats will be presented along with a slide show geared to dispel myths and prejudices against bats that can lead to the destruction of their roosts and colonies.



Michael Stroud - Magician!

Tuesday, June 25th • 3:00pm - 4:00pm
Branciforte Branch Library, 230 Gault Street

Michael Stroud is a 12-time award-winning magician, consultant, inventor, author and lecturer in the art of magic. He blends comedy, audience participation, circus skills and many surprises with special effects in his performances. The most amazing magic and variety show in the Bay Area since 1998!



Music Together MusicalMe Special Storytime

Thursday, June 27th • 10:30am - 11:30am
Downtown Branch Library, 224 Church Street

Experience first-hand just how fun learning and playing musically with your child can be. We'll teach you how to take music out of the box and put it into the hearts and hands of your young children, and you!

For more Library events visit: <https://www.santacruzpl.org/calendar/>

PARKS AND RECREATION

This Week by the Numbers

883 = Registered in the first week of summer programs.

27 = Senior trip participants visited Fioli Gardens and Estate on June 18.

200 – Woodies expected at the 25th Anniversary of Woodies on the Wharf on June 22.

404 – Tickets sold this week to 25 upcoming Civic events.

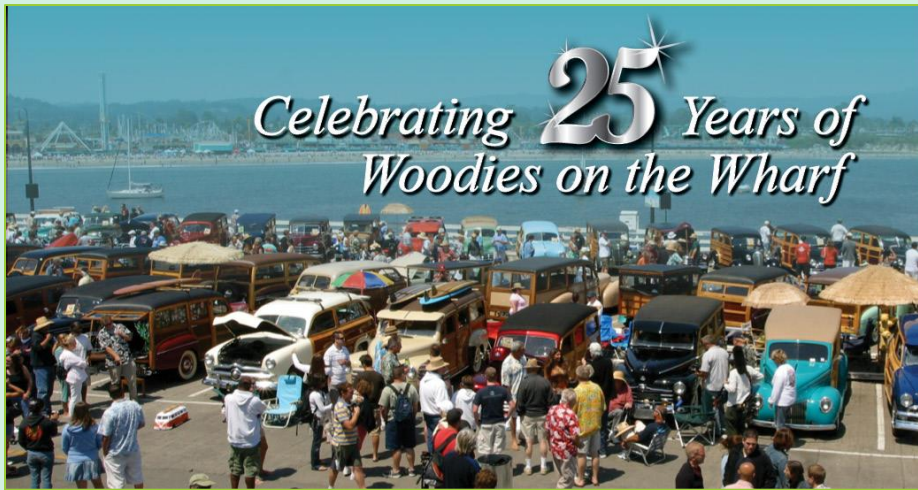
Highlights



Santa Cruz Junior Guards started this week at Cowell Beach. Parks and Recreation Director Tony Elliot, Recreation Supervisor Jill Bates and Lieutenant William Mullen kicked off opening day with a group of excited Little Guards.



Summer camps began at Harvey West Park this week. Parks and Recreation camp staff led Camp Cruz in a fun game of Down by the Banks.



Over 200 Woodies roll into Santa Cruz for the 25th Anniversary of Woodies on the Wharf on Saturday June 22. This year's highlights include:

- Get your 2019 Woodies poster signed by artist Jimbo Phillips!
- Surf board shaping demo with Bob Pearson of Pearson Arrow Surfboards.
- Talk with Superheroes of the Sanctuary, local non-profits protecting our ocean environment.
- Get a photo crusin' in the Woodie photo booth.
- Challenge your friends to a game of bocce or corn hole.
- Woodies parade off the Wharf at 3:30 pm.

Civic Auditorium



The Civic Auditorium staff worked with City's Central Maintenance to install LED lights on the front marquee.

West Cliff Path

The entire Parks Division pulled together, with help from Public Works, to trim back ice plant along West Cliff Path. By the end of the day over 27,000 pounds of ice plant had been removed. This annual event keeps the path, parking lots, and road clear for the busy summer season.



Goats are feasting on vegetation at Neary Lagoon. Annually they clear the vegetation from Blackburn St. to Chestnut St.

In addition to goats, we are keeping cattle grazing at Arana Gulch longer than in past years. Not all of the grassland areas in the park are grazed by cattle, however. Parks staff annually flail mow the remaining 18 acres of grassland for fire prevention and weed control. Prior to the mowing, biologists survey the property for wildlife and native plants to ensure they are not mistakenly harmed.



Wharf Impact Day

The Parks Division combined efforts for an impact day at the Wharf on Wednesday. The annual “pre-Woodies fence painting soiree” yielded a productive day in painting the railing at the Wharf to prepare for the 25th anniversary of Woodies on the Wharf and set the stage for a busy, fun summer season. The sea lions, although present, refused to lend a hand.



PLANNING

Planning & Community Development: Code Compliance and Rental Inspections

The Code Compliance Division of the Planning & Community Development Department works to protect the health, safety, and well-being of our residents and visitors.

In another example of our Rental Inspection team protecting lives and preventing serious property damage, on June 12, 2019, a rental inspector found char marks on a water heater. The inspector waited for the heater to turn on, at which time an open flame was ignited. The gas to the water heater was immediately shut off, and the management company responded by submitting building applications for all the unpermitted water heaters, hiring a licensed



contractor to complete the work, and obtaining all final inspections. Due to the coordination of Code Compliance Division and Building and Safety, the tenants were minimally impacted and were able to remain in their homes.

The fire's proximity to the other water heater and surrounding dry leaves and vegetation could have had led to dire consequences for the 12-unit apartment complex, its residents, and nearby properties and residents.

PUBLIC WORKS

Pollution Prevention/Storm Water

Congratulations to the 302 Santa Cruz businesses recognized as 2019 Clean Ocean Businesses! These vehicle service and restaurant/food service facilities have made special efforts to protect Santa Cruz creeks, the San Lorenzo River and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Read all the [details](#).



Bad Animal Books is one of the newest food service agencies recognized as a Clean Ocean Business.

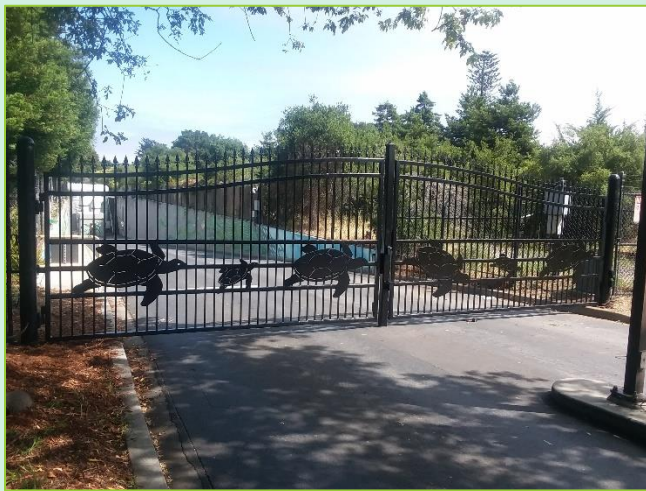
The City's first storm drain mural installation on June 9 went well. Artist Ralph D'Oliveira led 21 community members of all ages in painting it on Pryce Street. Everyone had a good time despite the hot weather. A particularly special moment was when two of the children who live on Pryce Street got to place their "footprints in the sand" on the mural. The murals are intended to increase awareness of how pollution and storm water travel along streets and sidewalks to the river and Monterey Bay and to engage local neighborhoods. The City has two more storm drain murals planned this summer. These murals are made possible thanks to the City of Santa, the Coastal Watershed Council, the City of Santa Cruz Arts Commission and local artists.



Wastewater Treatment Facility

The Wastewater Treatment Facility now has a new front gate, replacing the prior dilapidated chain-link gate. It was designed to provide better security with our ocean environment in mind including a powder-coat finish to withstand the sun and ocean air.

The turtle design matches the design on the ocean outfall stairwell at Mitchell's Cove. The curved top simulates waves and connects to the sea life murals along the facility's driveway. The ocean theme salutes the marine environment that the facility diligently protects. The gate is also being outfitted with a long-range access card reader to allow permitted vehicles to easily enter the facility and reduce vehicle idle time spent swiping access cards at a reader-box, thereby reducing carbon emissions.



Engineering

Our Cedar Street Rehabilitation Project continued this week by fixing a damaged pavement section along westbound Laurel Street from Blackburn to Walti. The project, funded by Measure D and Measure H tax dollars and a Community Development Block Grant, is rehabilitating/reconstructing Cedar Street from Church to Laurel.



The 2019 Surface Seal Project continued construction this week with the installation of the second layer of chip-seal at several locations. The project funded by Measure D and other funds is rehabilitating several local streets with double Chip-Seal and Micro surfacing.



May St



Potrero St



Amat St

Traffic Engineering/Community Relations

Pedestrian are at their highest level in almost 30 years according to an [alarming report on PBS News Hour](#) this week. Increasing distractions from digital devices used by both drivers and pedestrian are a cited cause of this and provide reason to heed this week's Street Smarts message. Click on the photos for more in English or Spanish.



Resource Recovery

Over the past week we have collected and disposed of 3.75 tons of illegally dumped household items.

These are the same sorts of items we will be collecting this Saturday, June 22, on Bulky Item Pickup Day. This service is free-of-charge to City of Santa Cruz residents who use the service tags provided in the annual Refuse & Recycling mailer and is part of the UCSC Move Out program.

Our street sweepers collected and disposed of 17.10 tons of debris from the roadways. This debris is thus prevented from reaching our waterways and otherwise hurting our City.

The Waste Reduction team is utilizing the help of a summer high school intern. Thanks to the Parks and Rec High School Student Summer Internship program, we get an extra hand with administrative tasks while our intern is gains valuable work experience – a win win!



Summer Intern Program

Streets

Streets crew repaired a portion of the driveway at the entrance of the Corp Yard.



Operations

Operations staff attended the USACE San Francisco District's workshop on the Levee Safety Program Update held at the Bay Model Visitors Center, Sausalito. The workshop provided an update on policy and guidance on the USACE Levee Safety Program, Flood Risk Management Program, Public Law 84-99 Rehabilitation Program, Section 408 Program, and Regulatory Program.