



# MILPITAS MATTERS

APRIL 9  
2021

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THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS

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## Vietnamese American Heritage Month

### MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

April 2021 marks the 46th anniversary since the *Fall of Saigon*, a military and political event that forced Vietnamese refugees to flee Vietnam and begin new lives outside their homeland. Dreadful economic conditions, political repression and discord with neighboring countries caused nearly 1 million people to leave Vietnam after the war. Hundreds of thousands came to the United States after spending time in Southeast Asian refugee camps. Vietnamese refugees struggled to find occupations in their newfound home regardless of their economic standing in the old country, in part due to language, job requirements, and prejudice. Today, the Vietnamese American community refer to the anniversary as *Black April* and *Day of Shame*. Many communities commemorate the event through solemn public ceremonies that showcase the flag of South Vietnam, which represent the lives lost during the war and the lives of those who embarked on a dangerous journey to freedom. These tributes serve as a reminder for the younger generation to learn and reflect on the sacrifices that others that came before them made in search for freedom and a better life. Many Vietnamese families

call Milpitas their home. We continue to flourish because of the countless contributions of our Vietnamese community members to the diversity, culture, growth, and economic development of our City. We are fortunate to have International Children Assistance Network (ICAN) based in Milpitas. The non-profit organization is committed to strengthening the Vietnamese American community by developing the next generation of caring leaders. Some examples of ICAN's social programs include **Happy 5**, a 6-week public education program focused on encouraging safe and nurturing parenting techniques; **Inspire Scholarship** for the Vietnamese-American students in Santa Clara, Alameda, and San Joaquin counties pursuing higher education who need financial assistance; and **100 Bikes**, a humanitarian program that engages students in the US to raise money to buy bikes for disadvantaged children in Vietnam who need transportation to attend school and complete their education. During this very important month, let us all be inspired by the many remarkable stories of resilience, perseverance, and purpose that heroic Vietnamese refugees and their parents lived through. *Forty-six years later, we remember, and will never forget.*

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## POLICE DEPARTMENT PROACTIVELY ENGAGES WITH THE AAPI COMMUNITY AMIDST INCIDENTS OF BIAS MOTIVATED HATE CRIMES

In light of the recent nationwide and Bay Area incidents of bias motivated hate crimes against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, the police department began to proactively contact the AAPI faith-based institutions within the City in an effort to keep an open line of communication and to discuss any concerns they may have. The police department also increased presence in shopping centers that have AAPI restaurants, businesses, and other places frequented by our AAPI community members to ensure their safety. Members of the Department's command staff, Criminal Investigations Bureau, and Patrol Services Division dropped into all of the businesses in the Milpitas Square shopping center to meet and talk with business owners, employees, and patrons. The department will continue to engage with the AAPI community in the days and weeks to come. Everyone has a role in stopping hate and creating a safe and inclusive community. When the community and police department work together, Milpitas becomes stronger and safer.



The letter you see here was also provided to each of the businesses and was made available in several Asian languages.

### MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT



March 12, 2021

Jared Hernandez  
Acting Chief of Police

To My Fellow Milpitas Community Members:

With the recent nationwide and Bay Area incidents of bias motivated hate crimes against the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, I am writing you to share our support and offer information to hopefully calm any concerns you may have about your safety in Milpitas.

Above all, please know that the women and men of the Milpitas Police Department are committed to the safety of our entire community, including our AAPI members. We prioritize hate-motivated crimes and pledge to fully investigate every criminal allegation that is reported to us. Regardless of the severity of an incident, it will not be diminished and will be investigated. Hate motivated incidents of harassment, assault, or vandalism can escalate quickly. It is important that these incidents are reported in a timely manner so they can be investigated thoroughly. Our objective is to ensure Milpitas is, and remains, a place where our community members do not have to live in fear because of the color of their skin, ethnicity, disability, gender identity, religion, or sexual orientation. Hate crimes do not just affect the victim, they affect everyone and diminish our sense of security. Hate crimes cannot and will not be tolerated in Milpitas.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines a hate crime as a "criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity." This definition is used nationwide for the purpose of recognizing, reporting, and tracking hate crimes. The Milpitas Police Department reports crime statistics to the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program on a monthly and annual basis. In reviewing the past five (5) years of our crime statistics there were no hate crime incidents reported in Milpitas.

Officers are trained in identifying and investigating hate crimes. The department's hate crime policy mandates reporting and provides guidelines for identifying and investigating incidents motivated by hatred or other bias. To ensure the safety of our AAPI community, patrol officers have increased their presence in shopping centers that have AAPI restaurants, businesses, and other places frequented by our AAPI community members. During the Lunar New Year, we adjusted our police staffing to ensure a visible presence in these same areas of the City. Our Police Community Relations Unit routinely contacts religious leaders at the faith-based institutions in the City to ensure we keep an open line of communication and to discuss current events, issues, and concerns about safety. We are in the process of proactively contacting all AAPI faith-based institutions within the City to start conversations specifically about hate motivated crimes. The Milpitas Police Department maintains an online reporting system for non-emergencies which can receive reports in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Additionally, we have several bilingual officers allowing us to provide service in multiple languages.

To help protect yourself, please practice good personal safety, stay vigilant, and do not hesitate to call us. Report suspicious or criminal activity immediately. We will respond when you call us. In an

emergency call 9-1-1. Our dispatchers have immediate access to translators. In a non-emergency, call (408) 586-2400. If you are not sure if the situation is an emergency, call 9-1-1 anyway. It is always better to be safe than sorry. If you have an emergency and cannot talk, you can send an SMS/text message to 9-1-1 in Milpitas. During a SMS/text conversation with our dispatcher, a built-in language translator function can provide crucial translation services in seventy (70) different languages. The system will automatically translate the messages based upon the selected language in the setting of your smartphone. We are here for you twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

We all have a role in stopping hate and creating a safe and inclusive community. When the community and police department work together, we can create a stronger and safer Milpitas. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Respectfully,

Jared Hernandez  
Acting Chief of Police

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY WITH US ALL MONTH

The City of Milpitas is celebrating our Earth all throughout April. Together, we can reduce our environmental impacts by adjusting our daily habits. We will have weekly social media challenges, webinars, presentations, videos, free litter pick-up kits, and more!

Check out our Sustainable Milpitas YouTube channel to learn more about sustainability and ways you can help the environment ([http://bit.ly/COM\\_EDVideos](http://bit.ly/COM_EDVideos)), and visit our Earth Day website for a schedule of activities and events (<https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/earth-day/>).



## COMMUNITY COMPOST GIVEAWAY

This is no April Fools' joke! April brings you the annual City of Milpitas & Milpitas Sanitation Community Compost Giveaway - mark your calendars!

When: Saturday, 4/24, between 7:00-11:00 a.m.

Where: MSI Yard, 1015 Martin Ave. Santa Clara

For more information and event coupon, visit: [www.MilpitasSanitation.com](http://www.MilpitasSanitation.com).

## JOIN THE CHALLENGE: SUPPORT NATIVE PLANTS AND POLLINATORS

Pollinators are essential in our overall ecosystem and include birds, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, bats, and bees! Unfortunately, much of California has been overcrowded by non-native plants, which often do not provide pollinators with enough nectar or pollen. So go out and smell the..."Poppies"! Support these little fellas and take part in one or more of the following challenges.

1. Visit a local park or any open space and take a picture of pollinators. Post your picture in the comments with #MilpitasEarthDay2021 and name the pollinator.
2. Take a picture of a NATIVE California plant. Post your picture in the comments with #MilpitasEarthDay2021 and name the native plant.
3. Plant a native pollinator-friendly flower in your area! Post your picture in the comments with #MilpitasEarthDay2021 and name the plant.
4. Check out the resources below and share your thoughts in the comments with #MilpitasEarthDay2021.

Challenge ends on Friday, April 30th.

To view challenge details and rewards available, visit:  
<https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/earth-day/>

Check out the following resources on native plants & pollinators:  
<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Science-Institute/Pollinators>

<https://xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center/california>

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us by e-mail:  
[milpitasrecycle@ci.milpitas.ca.gov](mailto:milpitasrecycle@ci.milpitas.ca.gov)

**Celebrate Earth Day with Us All Month**

All April, we will share environmental information and post weekly challenges for you to get involved!

STEP 1: Watch for our weekly challenges on Mondays  
STEP 2: Complete challenges by posting a picture or comment with the hashtag #MilpitasEarthDay2021  
STEP 3: Get your rewards, depending on the number of weekly challenges completed!

Water Conservation Kit	4 challenges completed	4 green circles
Reusable Water Bottle	3 challenges completed	3 green circles
Mug	2 challenges completed	2 green circles
Pen, Pencil, Bookmark	1 challenge completed	1 green circle

\*Rewards are limited in quantity. We reserve the right to substitute rewards.

**Check out our Website**  
<https://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/earth-day/>

We have curated a collection of videos to share ways you can help the environment:  
Search for "Sustainable Milpitas" on YouTube.

**Milpitas Sanitation**

**Community Compost Giveaway**

**Rain or shine, while supplies last!**

Saturday, April 24, 2021  
7:00 am - 11:00 am  
Milpitas Sanitation Yard  
1015 Martin Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050  
Milpitas residents can pick up 2 free bags of compost.  
Photo I.D. and signed coupon\* required.

\*For coupon and more info, visit: [www.MilpitasSanitation.com](http://www.MilpitasSanitation.com). COVID PROTOCOLS WILL BE IN EFFECT: Masks and social distancing required. 2 bags per vehicle only. Multiple households per vehicle and return vehicle visits to the giveaway will not be allowed.

**CONTACT US:** [www.MilpitasSanitation.com](http://www.MilpitasSanitation.com)  
(408) 988-4500 • [info@MilpitasSanitation.com](mailto:info@MilpitasSanitation.com)

**Support Native Plants & Pollinators**

**Flower Power**

**Did you know...**

Pollinators maintain healthy ecosystems!  
Habitat loss and pesticide poisoning cause pollinator population declines.  
There are over 4,000 species of native California bees!

**How can you help?**  
Plant native plants & avoid use of pesticides!

**Join the Challenge**  
and earn REWARDS (see description for details)

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## IN-HOME VACCINATION PROGRAM

City staff has been working closely with the County in the roll-out plan for our in-home vaccination clinic. The County is following the Medicare eligibility criteria for residents who need the help of another person or medical equipment such as crutches, a walker, or a wheelchair to leave the home, or the doctor believes that the individual's health or illness could get worse when he/she leaves the home. The County has taken the lead in setting-up the appointments, determining eligibility and has collaborated with the City to determine locations where the vaccinations will occur potentially by zip code. Milpitas Fire staff will begin the in-home vaccine program on April 14 with an estimated 5 vaccines given per day. We currently have 15 residents that have passed the screening by County Public Health. It is also anticipated that the vaccinations will be completed by April 23.



## MILPITAS YOUTH FORCE TEAMS COMPLETE 2021 PROGRAM

Congratulations to our 2021 Milpitas Youth Force teams, who just concluded 8 weeks of virtual collaboration to help four Milpitas businesses solve real-world problems. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Milpitas Youth Force program was restructured to provide students a safe, work-at-home experience collaborating in a team with other teens to help solve a real-life work challenge that a Milpitas employer is facing.

The businesses were Element by Westin hotel, opening in Milpitas in June; coffee distributor and educator Global Aroma; video production company C-Sharp, and the Milpitas Recreation and Community Services Department.



## SPRING BREAK CAMPS

It's not too late to sign up your child for Spring Break camps! We have several in-person, outdoor and virtual camps during the week of April 12-16. Check out some of our awesome camps and enroll today!

- After the Bell Spring Break Pop-ups
- All Sorts of Sports with National Academy of Athletics
- Art Camp with After School Life
- Horse Camp with Chaparral Country Corporation
- Virtual Coding Camps with Code For Fun

Find all our Spring Break Camps here: <http://ow.ly/Usn150EfHli>

## 26,000+ SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM (SNP) MEALS SERVED

The Milpitas Senior Nutrition Program (SNP), offered by the City's Recreation and Community Services Department in partnership with the Aging & Adult Services section of Santa Clara County provides high quality, cost-efficient, nutritious meals to seniors. The Barbara Lee Senior Center is one of many serving sites throughout the County serving to-go meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. As of April 2, the City has served a total of 26,768 senior meals. The Senior Nutrition Program is open to all Monday through Friday from Noon to 1 p.m.

Check out the Barbara Lee Senior Center's Senior Nutrition Program menu choices for the month by following this link <https://bit.ly/3cVsyHL>. If you would like to pick up a to-go meal, please call (408) 586-3413 to make a reservation and schedule a pick-up time with one of our staff. We look forward to seeing you soon!



# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## SMALL BUSINESS TOWNHALL: APRIL 15 @ 3:30PM

In Partnership with the US Small Business Administration, Small Business Development Centers, and regional Chambers of Commerce, Assemblymember Alex Lee and Congressman Ro Khanna are holding a Small Business Town Hall to help small businesses understand the financial assistance programs currently available to them. Please click [here](#) to register.



## BUILDING SAFETY AND HOUSING DIRECTOR, SHARON GOEI APPOINTED TO STATE CODE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There are six Code Advisory Committees that conduct public meetings to review proposed building standards and provide recommendations to the California Building Standards Commission and state agencies. Each Code Advisory Committee covers a broad discipline, and committee membership consists of a local government official seat, various technical professional positions, related industry seats, and a public member. The City of Milpitas has great representation as our Building Safety and Housing Director, Sharon Goei was appointed to chair the Structural Design Code Advisory Committee and serve as a member of the Health Facilities Code Advisory Committee. The committees serve for three-year terms for a triennial code adoption cycle.



## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

**SummerHill Apartments**, 301 Gates Dr., phase two 361-unit apartment complex with commercial development wrapped around a 5-story parking garage by SummerHill Apartment Communities: See the below photo for demolition work in progress for the development.



**BP Arco**, a new gas station located at 1575 Landess Ave. See below photo showing progress of the new Arco gas station after the demolition of the old gas station at the intersection of Landess Avenue and S. Park Victoria Drive. Both interior and exterior of the new gas station are at their finishing stages. Most work that remains is for the parking lot and utilities from the street.



**CPA Accountancy Office**, 428 S. Main St. To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit for a CPA office was issued.

**MKS Instruments**, a measuring and controlling device manufacturing company located at 1565 Barber Ln. To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit for partial testing rooms at the facility was issued.

**Under Armour**, a retail store located at the Great Mall. To allow an earlier start of construction, a temporary permit was issued to Under Armour.

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## BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

*Building permits were issued to the following:*

**KLA Tencor**, a semiconductor equipment manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at its facility located at 3 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$800,000 and \$940,000.

**HL Peninsula Restaurant**, a new Chinese restaurant located at 136 Ranch Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$600,000.

*Building permit applications were submitted by the following:*

**Robson Homes Finch Hollow**, for construction of the next 9 single-family homes out of 38 single-family residential development located at 1005 N. Park Victoria Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$3.36M.

**The Crossing at Montague**, for site improvement consisting of restoration of recreation space that was disturbed/removed by VTA during construction of the Milpitas BART Station located at 755 E. Capitol Ave. at an estimated construction cost of \$992,586.

**Indian Metro**, a new Indian grocery store for tenant improvement located at 699 E. Calaveras Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$500,000.

*The following businesses received final inspection and are now open for operation:*

**Anti-Gravity Lab LLC**, a wholesale order fulfillment shipment business located at 1681 S. Main St.

**The Coder School**, an after-school tutoring center located at 1683 N. Milpitas Blvd.

**Sephora USA**, a retail store at the Great Mall.

## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



[www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov)



[@MilpitasCityGov](https://twitter.com/MilpitasCityGov)



[@CityofMilpitas](https://www.facebook.com/CityofMilpitas)



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