



# MILPITAS MATTERS

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THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS

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## MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

Every year, Veterans Day is commemorated on November 11 in the United States. This is in honor of the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918 that signaled the end of World War I, known as Armistice Day. In 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower officially changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. On this important day, we come together to express our profound gratitude for the sacrifices veterans and their families have made on the battlefield, at home, and at outposts around the world in defense of our freedom.

Federal Regulations define a veteran as *"a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable."* This definition explains that any individual that completed a service for any branch of armed forces classifies as a veteran as long as they were not dishonorably discharged. In Milpitas, we have a Veterans Commission actively serving members from every branch of the Armed Forces of the United States. The seven-member commission was founded on December 1, 2009. It is focused on advocating for and providing

superior service to Milpitas veterans. The Commission's goal is to improve the quality of life of veterans, their families and survivors. Every year, the Milpitas Veterans Commission also acknowledges a veteran who has given unselfishly to the community other than their job-related occupation. Our gratitude to our veterans has always been grounded in an appreciation for what they did while on duty and what they continue to do even after their service has ended. Courageous men and women have faced and overcome challenges. In turn, we need to uphold our obligations to these heroic individuals.

The City's Veterans Commission provides up to date information that will benefit all United States veterans and their eligible family members who live in Milpitas. Information about employment, job training, assistance and benefits, etc. can be found [here](#). These resources will be especially important to the estimated 2,159 or 3.1% veterans (2019 American Community Survey) and their families residing in Milpitas.

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## CHRISTIAN DI RENZO NAMED MILPITAS PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

City Manager Steven G. McHarris announced the appointment of Christian Di Renzo as the City's next Public Works Director. Christian has more than 12 years of combined public works-related experience having served in managerial positions with the cities of Watsonville, Benicia and Beverly Hills. As the Director of Public Works and Utilities in the City of Watsonville, he led a department of over 190 employees providing services through the Wastewater, Water, Solid Waste enterprise utilities, as well as fleet, engineering, streets, field services, utility billing and customer service, outreach and environmental sustainability operations. During his time serving the City of Benicia, he oversaw the completion of an \$8 million smart water meter replacement project, launched in-house CCTV and mobile CMMS (Computerized Maintenance Management System) operations, and oversaw the design and construction of several large-scale water and wastewater utility capital projects.

Christian has a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Master's degree in Political Science from St. John's University in New York. He completed his Bachelor's degree in English and Political Science from the University of Utah. Christian was born in Rome, Italy, is a life-long fan of the Italian soccer team Juventus and enjoys reading 19th century English and French literature in his spare time.

## VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY

On November 11, the City of Milpitas held the annual ceremony for Veterans Day, celebrating the lives of military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The event was well-attended by veterans and their families, community members, the Milpitas City Council, dignitaries and City Staff.

## MILPITAS VETERANS APPRECIATION LUNCH AND RESOURCE FAIR

Are you a veteran who lives in Milpitas? You are invited to the Milpitas Veterans Appreciation Lunch and Resource Fair this Saturday, November 19, 2022 at the Barbara Lee Senior Center (40 N. Milpitas Blvd.)

Resource Fair: 10 a.m. - Noon (open to all)  
Lunch: Noon

To RSVP for the lunch, please contact [iciardella@milpitas.gov](mailto:iciardella@milpitas.gov) or call (408) 586-3225.

## FIRST DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS EVENT IN MILPITAS

The City's first-ever Día de los Muertos event was held on October 29 at Cardoza Park. Community members enjoyed the celebration as everyone remembered loved ones with traditional Mexican crafts and activities, mariachi music, and food. On the big screen an educational documentary about the holiday from PBS station KCET in Los Angeles. The event was funded in part by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars.





# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATED IN MILPITAS

A Native American Flag Raising ceremony was held on Saturday, November 2 at the Cesar Chavez Plaza to commemorate Native American Heritage Month. The event was well-attended by members of the community, the Milpitas City Council, some dignitaries and City Staff. The celebration was marked with a special blessing, land acknowledgment and cultural dances by members of the Muwékma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area.

## RECESS WITH A COP

On November 2, the Milpitas Police Department visited Milpitas Unified School District's Rose Elementary School continuing the Recess with a Cop program. Staff from the Police Community Relations Unit and Patrol Services Division had a blast playing on the playground and with a colorful parachute.

The goals of the City's Recess with a Cop program are to:

- Interact with the children of our community
- Build relationships
- Have fun

## POLICE DEPARTMENT DRUG TAKE BACK EVENT

On October 29, the Milpitas Community turned in 132.45 lbs of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs to prevent pill abuse and theft. The Milpitas Police Department offered a safe, anonymous way to dispose of old prescriptions through this initiative. If you or someone you know was unable to make it to the Drug Take Back Event, follow this [link](#) and find a year-round authorized drug disposal site in your area.

## ALVISO ADOBE TOURS

Milpitas' Alviso Adobe Building has wonderful stories to tell! Be among the first to visit this beautiful historic home. We are excited to announce that its historic Alviso Adobe will open to the public with free Grand Opening Week Tours the week of November 21.

This is the perfect opportunity to plan an educational family outing during Milpitas Unified School District's Thanksgiving break!

Space is limited, so reservations are required.

<https://bit.ly/3WO3Fmj>

## MILK AND COOKIES WITH SANTA

Get ready for the holiday season with the event Milk and Cookies with Santa! Follow your friends to the Milpitas Community Center and take a festive photo with Santa Claus. Cookie decorating kits will be provided along with an assortment of holiday crafts and plenty of cheer.

Saturday, December 3, 2022

Session 1: 9 - 10 a.m.

Session 2: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Milpitas Community Center (457 E. Calaveras Blvd.)

Buy your tickets now! <http://ow.ly/ONfz50LwFBc>

For more information visit [milpitas.gov/recreation](http://milpitas.gov/recreation) or call (408) 586-3210.



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## CERTIFIED GREEN BUILDING PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The City of Milpitas and Build-It-Green are partnering to bring you a live training on green building and sustainable innovation! Mark your calendars on Nov. 30th to start the Certified Green Building Professional Training on green solutions to design, construction, and operation of buildings. This live webinar will provide a holistic approach to building healthy, cost-saving homes. Milpitas is providing 25 free spots to Milpitas residents and there are still a few open seats. Don't miss your chance to register today! <http://bit.ly/3DEjbcT> \*For Milpitas residents, please use code: MILPITAS.



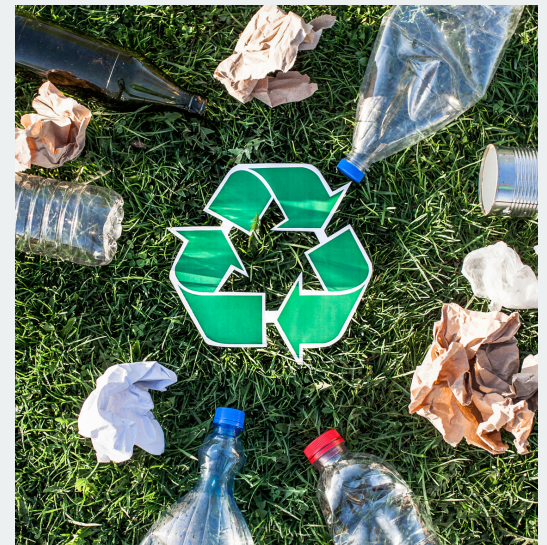
## PROPER ASSORTMENT AND RECYCLING TIPS

November 15th was America Recycles Day. America Recycles Day is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to encouraging Americans to recycle and buy recycled products. This year's theme was *"I want to be recycled."*

Please check out the many ways that you can recycle properly to avoid common items that contaminate the recycling stream. The cleanest and most efficient sorting starts with you.

Please remember the following tips:

- Place recyclable materials only in your blue split or dedicated recyclables carts and/or bins.
- Empty and rinse all recyclable plastic, metal and glass food containers to prevent contamination.
- Friendly reminder, the gray bin is for garbage, brown for food scraps, blue for recyclables and green for yard trimmings.



### Don't Forget...

Make sure to place materials and products in the appropriate bins. Items that are placed in the wrong bins/carts, contaminate the recycling stream. Items that should be placed in the garbage but are commonly misplaced in the recycling bin include:

- Takeout/Salad Clamshells
- Shrink Wrap/Plastic Film
- Cereal Bags
- Online retailer shipping bags
- Chip/Snack packaging
- Styrofoam
- Bubble Wrap
- Personnel hygiene products
- Pet waste
- CDS/DVDS/VHS Tapes
- Dishware

For more information, please click [here](#).

**Gray = Garbage**  
**Brown = Food Scraps**  
**Blue = Recyclables**  
**Green = Yard Trimmings**





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## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

**Sango Court Apartments**, 355 Sango Ct., (2) 4-story residential buildings of wood modular construction above first floor concrete podiums with a steel bridge connecting the two buildings providing 102 affordable housing units by Resources for Community Development.

The installation of the pedestrian bridge continued during the week of October 23rd, bringing the major installations of modular units to approximately 90%. Work on the interior for structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing is about 70% complete, and finish work on the exterior is about 50% complete. See below pictures.



**Mission Peak Homes INC.**, 450 Wool Dr.

These below photos shows the completed demolition of Milpitas Church of Christ building which had been abandoned for some time.



**Sunnyhills Apartments**, 1730 Sunnyhills Drive, an in-fill project that consists of 6 apartment buildings with a total of 44 units, a leasing office and carport structures. The building in the center of the photo is a 7-unit building, with a 3-unit and a 7-unit building seen to the left. Building on the right background is part of the existing Sunnyhills apartment complex.



## BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

*The following business has received final inspection and is now open for operation:*

**Citizen**, a retail store located at Great Mall.

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## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



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



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