

Anne Ferguson

From: Supervisor Ken Yeager <supervisor.yeager@bos.sccgov.org@mail184.atl21.rsgsv.net>
on behalf of Supervisor Ken Yeager <supervisor.yeager@bos.sccgov.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 2:28 PM
Subject: NEW PROGRAMS FOCUSED ON IMPROVING LIVES OF ALL AGES



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COUNTY STEPS UP TO HELP KEEP CHILD CARE AFFORDABLE





In the budget adopted last month, I also led the Board to include funds for the Bay Area Older Adults Healthy Living Program.

Since 2008, Bay Area Older Adults has provided physical activities, lifelong learning, nutrition, health, and social support programs to approximately 3,000 mostly low-income Santa Clara County residents over age 60 each year.

The program helps seniors remain physically active and healthy through bi-weekly four-hour outdoor programs such as lawn bowling, bird watching, and disc golf. The program also includes health education seminars about diet, nutrition, and prescription medications.

In addition, Bay Area Older Adults encourages lifelong learning by helping residents learn about new technology and different cultures. Participants make visits to San Jose's Japanese American Museum, De Anza College Planetarium, and the Santa Clara County crime lab.

The County's cost for a full year of activities through Bay Area Older Adults is approximately \$20 per senior. A single inpatient doctor's visit costs approximately \$300 dollars, so if the program prevents just one visit per year per senior then the County will get a 14-fold return on its investment.

[Learn more about Bay Area Older Adults by clicking here.](#)

LEAD LEVELS POSE A DANGER TO SOME SANTA CLARA COUNTY CHILDREN



This year, I proposed that the County spend almost \$100,000 to begin a lead abatement pilot program. I am grateful that my fellow Supervisors agreed to fund this pressing need.

The California Department of Public Health has found that five zip codes in Santa Clara County--95020, 95111, 95116, 95122, and 95127--are among the top 200 in the state with the highest percentage of children under age six who have dangerously elevated levels of lead in their blood.

Even small amounts of lead can harm young children and negatively impact their brain development, IQ, growth, behavior, hearing, and speech. The largest source of childhood exposure is from lead-based paint found in houses built before 1978.

The pilot project will enable the County to test and assess its capacity to conduct residential lead abatement. In addition, the pilot will help determine the costs of a larger scale abatement plan.

In 2013, the County along with nine other jurisdictions won a judgment against the paint industry establishing a \$1.15 billion fund for lead-paint abatement. The judgement is currently being appealed. However, if it is upheld, we would receive substantial funding solely dedicated to lead abatement of homes built before 1980. This pilot project will ensure that we are ready to rapidly use those funds when they are released.

SENIOR SCAM STOPPER SEMINAR

WHAT: We welcome seniors, their families, and caregivers to come out to this informational seminar about how to prevent being the victim of fraud. This is a joint effort between State Senator Wieckowski, Assemblymember Low, myself, and San Jose City Councilmember Davis to increase awareness amongst older adults about their heightened risk of being the target of scams. Space is limited so please RSVP through Senator Wieckowski's Office.

WHEN: Monday, August 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WHERE: Rose Garden Branch Library Community Room, 1580 Naglee Ave., San Jose

MORE INFORMATION: RSVP through Senator Wieckowski's Office by calling (510) 794-3900. You can also learn more about the event on Facebook by [clicking here](#). To learn more about the Senior Scam Stopper Program visit www.SeniorScamStopper.com.

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Our mailing address is:

Supervisor Ken Yeager - Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors - District 4
70 W. Hedding Street
10th Floor, East Wing
San Jose, CA 95110

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