



## PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

QUINLAN COMMUNITY CENTER  
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### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Thursday, January 9, 2020

#### Subject

2019 Holiday Events.

#### Recommended Action

Receive Report on 2019 Holiday Events.

#### Discussion

The City of Cupertino hosted various holiday activities in December: Tree lighting, Breakfast with Santa, Signing Santa, Santa Visits, Holiday Ham Lunch, Holidays in Hawaii, Holiday Sing-a-Long and Birthday Bash.

#### *Events*

##### *Tree Lighting (12/6/2019):*

The Parks and Recreation Department hosted Cupertino's annual Tree Lighting event, at the Quinlan Community Center. Due to the rain, this outdoor event was moved completely indoors. The event included musical entertainment from Business Casual — an award-winning a cappella group, crafts, hot chocolate, cookies, a movie, balloon animals, and a visit from Santa. Special thanks to the Santa Clara County Fire Department for bringing Santa and his Elf to Quinlan on a fire engine. Tree Lighting could not happen without the support of the Public Works Department. A huge thank you to the Tree Division for hanging the lights on the Quinlan tree. This is not an easy task, but they did an outstanding job! The tree looks absolutely beautiful! Tree lighting hosted approximately 600 parents and children.

##### *Breakfast with Santa (12/7/2019):*

The 28th Annual Breakfast with Santa event was held at the Quinlan Community Center. Over 300 participants enjoyed a morning of holiday cheer. The De Anza Optimist Club of Cupertino, along with over 26 teen volunteers, supported staff to provide a wonderful pancake/sausage breakfast, letter writing to Santa at Santa's Post Office, and a variety of holiday-themed crafts for the Cupertino community. Na' Hoaaloha Ho'okani Pila provided a wonderful musical performance and set the mood for the spirit of the holidays. The highlight for many children and families was having

their picture taken with Santa...a lasting memory for all! We hope to see all again next year! Breakfast with Santa was sold out with 304 participants.

#### Signing Santa (12/14/2019):

The Parks and Recreation Department introduced a unique holiday event – Signing Santa! This event was the first of its kind in the Bay Area and provided an opportunity for deaf and hard of hearing children to talk to Santa using American Sign Language (ASL). Santa was accompanied by an interpreter, so he was able to communicate with all family members. More than 70 people attended the event and enjoyed crafts, cookies, and hot cocoa, along with some quality time with Santa. Staff was very pleased with the turnout and plans to continue offering Signing Santa in the future. Signing Santa registered 71 participants in its inaugural year,

#### Santa Visits (12/14, 15, 20, 21, 22/2019):

The Cupertino Parks and Recreation Department aided Santa in visiting over 30 homes this season. Santa and his elf join Cupertino families in their home for a magical meet-and-greet that ends with a delicious candy cane. This in-home event is offered to Cupertino Residents only and consists of 15-minutes of North Pole magic. Santa Visited 31 homes in the 2019 season.

#### *Senior Center Events*

##### Holiday Ham Lunch (12/6/2019)

This event fed 45 members a hearty meal of ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, a roll, and triple chocolate cake. The opportunity to eat at the center before engaging in the usual Friday activities—bingo, mah jongg, ping pong, or the book review, was a lively change for the Friday crowd

##### Holidays in Hawaii (12/4/2019)

The Senior Center's very own Lei Nani Hula dancers and the Pila Ho' Okani band hosted over 100 guests in a hula performance and lesson accompanied by seasonal tunes with a Hawaiian twist.

##### Holiday Sing-a-Long (12/11/2019)

The second week of December saw the Senior Center's all-volunteer Harmonikatz band lead an audience of over 80 in Hawaiian holiday songs—even Santa himself made a guest appearance at the beginning of the show

##### Birthday Bash (12/18/2019)

The Senior Center wrapped up its holiday season with the December Birthday Bash, feeding 117 seniors a meal of tri-tip, scalloped potatoes, holiday salad, sweet ginger carrots, and New York cheesecake.

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Attachments: