

City of Vacaville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NOVARTIS DAY SET FOR APRIL 21; SHIP DAY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 24

Two programs designed to help senior and disabled residents of Vacaville remain in and maintain their homes will take place in late April.

On April 21, employees of Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation will take part in "Community Partnership Day" to help those needing maintenance to the exterior of their homes.

"Novartis celebrates Community Partnership Day globally each year to encourage all Novartis associates to engage in volunteering in their communities," said Robert Carter, Novartis Site Head. "For those of us in Vacaville, this is a chance to continue our tradition of giving back to the community and partnering with the City of Vacaville in helping others."

The Novartis Community Partnership Day event includes landscaping, exterior painting, exterior cleanup and other improvements.

On April 24, members of local building trade unions will donate their time to install a variety of interior modifications to allow senior and disabled residents to continue to live safely and independently in their homes. Senior Home Improvement Program Day is the result of a partnership between the City of Vacaville and local labor unions.

"Together with the Carpenters Union Local 180, Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 343, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 180 we have thousands of members that live here locally," said Ron Rowlett of the Northern California Carpenters Regional Council. "We look forward to volunteering our time to help in the communities in which we live. Our members are always willing to give their time to great events like the SHIP program. It's exciting to see how much the seniors appreciate the work we that we do."

(More)

Senior Home Improvement Program Day has been held for the last four years and includes the installation of items such as light switches, motion activated night lights, grab bars, hand held shower heads, lever door handles, smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, toilet modifiers, and tub/shower benches.

Helping people remain in their homes and bringing a program like Senior HIP to Vacaville is a collaborative effort, said Cyndi Johnston, Director of the City of Vacaville's Housing and Redevelopment Department,

"We are so pleased to have such great partners who care about helping our seniors and disabled stay safe and happy in their homes," Johnson said. "It would be virtually impossible to run this program without their assistance."

Rowlett, also a Vacaville City Council member, offered his group's support into the future.

"We will continue to help as long as there is a need," he said. "I would like to personally thank the local unions and the City of Vacaville for their dedication to make Vacaville a great place to live.

To qualify for either activity, residents must be at least 62 years old or disabled. Income limits are a one-person household can have a maximum income of \$44,450 annually; for two people, it rises to \$50,800 annually; and for three people, \$57,150 a year.

The Novartis event is completely booked. Some spaces remain for the Senior HIP Day event. For more details on the Senior HIP, visit www.cityofvacaville.com and go to the Housing and Redevelopment Department link. To sign up for the April 24 Senior HIP Day, call Connie McGinness at 449-5693.

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