

‘Sunnyvaleans’ on cable access takes on tough topics



Photograph by Jacqueline Ramseyer

Sunnyvale resident Misuk Park has a new public access show called ‘Sunnyvaleans’ that explores current events in the city. For an upcoming episode, Park will be talking to residents about affordable housing, new developments and preserving historic structures, including the old Mellow’s Nursery house seen here.

By **VICTORIA KEZRA** | vkezra@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group

PUBLISHED: July 28, 2017 at 10:45 am | UPDATED: July 28, 2017 at 11:29 am

Topics like traffic, growth and affordable housing are on the minds of plenty of Sunnyvale residents and at the forefront of a new cable access show by resident Misuk Park.

“Sunnyvaleans” airs on KMVT, and to date, Park has completed two episodes with a third in production.

“I thought that the city of Sunnyvale just doesn’t have enough communication going on. There are a lot of things happening, but there’s really nowhere where people talk about it,” Park says. “There seems to be a lot of misinformation on the web and different places. I thought, ‘Why don’t I stop complaining about it and do something?’”

After taking a film course at KMVT this year—required for anyone who wants to produce a show—and another at De Anza College, Park was ready to produce her first episode, which aired in May. She initially envisioned the show as more about local arts and lifestyle, but decided to switch to current events, ongoing local issues and some city history.

Her first episode was a sit-down chat with Mayor Glenn Hendricks to talk about traffic, progress at the downtown city center and other issues. Her second episode took viewers on a tour through the Sunnyvale Heritage Museum to highlight the city’s past. The third episode is in production and will focus on housing issues in the city.

Episodes will delve into a topic, with Park interviewing someone knowledgeable on the subject and asking them questions from residents.

As often as possible, Park says she’d like to shoot on location. Her episode at the Sunnyvale Heritage Museum saw her and museum director Laura Babcock chat while sitting at a table originally owned by the Murphy family, who helped settle the city. She said she typically goes out to farmers markets and other outdoor events, camera in hand, to search out people with questions about the city.

“I try to cover as much ground as possible while giving the general viewer a sense of what the issue or subject is and try to pique their interest so they can do more research themselves,” she says.

Park also encourages residents who she may not cross paths with while shooting to send questions for her guests or ideas for future episodes.

With a crew of essentially one person and camera people from the studio, each episode can take roughly 35 hours to create. She does much of the research, shooting and editing herself.

Park says her favorite part about the production is the complete autonomy she has in putting the end product together exactly as she wants it, though she confesses her inner critic lingers.

“It’s basically all on me, so I have the responsibility, but the fun of making it exactly the way I want it,” she says. “The thing I don’t like is I look at every little flaw. There is a troll in my head that says, ‘That didn’t turn out right.’”

In addition to the upcoming housing crisis episode, Park says she’s begun work on a feature about the city’s sustainability and environmental programs.

“I want people to say, ‘Hey, this is interesting; no one else is doing this and you’re getting accurate info out there and making it moderately entertaining.’”

She is planning to add more information to the show’s website at sunnyvaleans.org.

“Sunnyvaleans” can be seen in Sunnyvale, Los Altos, Cupertino and Mountain View on KMVT Comcast channel 26 and AT&T U-Verse channel 99 on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. It can also be viewed on the [KMVT YouTube channel](#).

Questions, topic requests and show volunteer inquiries can be sent to info@sunnyvaleans.org or misuk@sunnyvaleans.org.

SPONSORED CONTENT

Meet the People Enabling Donald Trump

BY VANITY FAIR

VANITY FAIR

Victoria Kezra Victoria Kezra is a reporter covering Sunnyvale. She is a Syracuse University alumna and has previously written for The Syracuse New Times, The Daily Beast and The Jerusalem Post. She never seems to have enough milk in her house.

 Follow Victoria Kezra @VictoriaKezra

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
ALL ACCESS DIGITAL OFFER FOR JUST 99 CENTS!

