County supes consider dueling redistricting proposals [7]

Bands perform outdoors at Solvang Park [24]

VTC artists share their work in new show [27]

Ant-Man and the Wasp: Buzzworthy adventure [29]

An iconic Los Alamos motel gets a makeover [10]

BY REBECCA ROSE

Up on the hill
For us, taking care of someone’s final arrangements is more than just a business or service. It is a commitment from our family to serve your family. We promise to maintain the dignity and guard the privacy of those we serve. Your loved one will be treated in the same manner we would expect our loved one to be cared for.

Assisting you through your hour of need

LORI FAMILY MORTUARY
Funerals & Cremations
915-A East Stowell Rd. | Santa Maria, CA | 24 Hour Phone (805) 922-5880
www.lorifamilymortuary.com

Steve, Bill, Dena, Mark & Chris have a combined 150+ years of experience in vehicle repair right here in Old Town Orcutt

Family Owned and Operated Since the Early '80s!

ORCUTT 76

Steve, Bill, Dena, Mark & Chris have a combined 150+ years of experience in vehicle repair right here in Old Town Orcutt

Family Owned and Operated Since the Early '80s!

OIL CHANGES as low as $29.00
- ask for details -
937-5340
100 E. Clark Ave.
Orcutt, CA 93455

Summer Special:
$25 off any service

SMOG CHECK Pass or Don’t Pay!
Drive Ups Welcome!

$10.00 OFF
Regular Price $44.00
Call for appointment: 937-5340

$34.00

Plus $8.25 Certificate + $1.50 Transfer fee. ‘95 & Older $10 extra, Vans & Motor Homes $15 extra.
Coupns may not be combined with any other offer. Expires 7/31/18

Summer Special:
$25 off any service

SMOG CHECK Pass or Don’t Pay!
Drive Ups Welcome!

$10.00 OFF
Regular Price $44.00
Call for appointment: 937-5340

$34.00

Plus $8.25 Certificate + $1.50 Transfer fee. ‘95 & Older $10 extra, Vans & Motor Homes $15 extra.
Coupns may not be combined with any other offer. Expires 7/31/18

Smith Electric
MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL PLUMBING
1340 W. Betteravia Rd, Santa Maria
se habla español
805-868-0954
smith-electric.com

What’s Your Take? We know you’ve got an opinion. Everybody’s got one!

This week’s online poll
7/12 – 7/19

Will you vote to raise the Measure U sales tax in Santa Maria come November?

• Yes.
• No.
• Not sure yet.

Enter your choice online at:
SantaMariaSun.com

$1000 OFF SMOG CHECK
Pass or Don’t Pay!

$25 off any service

Summer Special:

What’s Your Take? We know you’ve got an opinion. Everybody’s got one!

This week’s online poll
7/12 – 7/19

Will you vote to raise the Measure U sales tax in Santa Maria come November?

• Yes.
• No.
• Not sure yet.

Enter your choice online at:
SantaMariaSun.com
Now offering Bachelor’s Degrees!

Online and Campus Classes Start August 6

Santa Maria
325 E. Betteravia Road, B-B
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Located in the Target Shopping Center

Enroll Today!
(805) 633-4935
LaurusCollege.Edu

Accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS)
Financial aid is available for those who qualify. For more information about Laurus College and a complete list of its programs, admissions policies, fees and consumer information please visit our website at www.lauruscollege.edu.
**PACIFIC CONSERVATORY THEATRE**

**JUL 12 - 22 SOLVANG FESTIVAL THEATER**

“A COMIC FIREWORKS SHOW!”
SANTA MARIA SUN

Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike

THE TONY AWARD WINNING COMEDY!
BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG
ADULT LANGUAGE

**JUL 18 - JUL 21**
MARIAN THEATRE SANTA MARIA

**JUL 27 - AUG 26**
SOLVANG FESTIVAL THEATER

MAMMA MIA!

BOOK BY
Catherine Johnson

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus and some songs with Stig Anderson

TICKETS 922-8313 | BOX OFFICE 12:30-7PM WED-SUN | PCPA.ORG

**Free Gourmet Dinner**
Immediately following our free seminar on STRESS, HORMONES & HEALTH
The True Cause of Belly Fat
(Yes, this is for you men too)

Join Speaker Tim Jones, MD
Dr. Jones will tell you about the latest scientific breakthroughs and methods that help you permanently and safely remove unwanted belly fat while quickly reclaiming your health, your youth, and your life!

Tuesday, July 24th at 6:30pm

Free admission & gourmet meal
Must RSVP
805-738-3595

1317 W. McCoy Ln • Santa Maria

**Painting · Decks · Drywall · Paving • Carpentry • Fencing • Roof Repair • Remodels and more!**

James Handyman Services
Serving the entire Central Coast
20 years experience
Free Estimates (805) 602-0394

**SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM of NATURAL HISTORY**

2559 Puesta del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA 93105
805-682-4711 • sbnature.org

Thank you to our Business, Foundation, and Media Sponsors

Free Gourmet Dinner
Immediately following our free seminar on STRESS, HORMONES & HEALTH
The True Cause of Belly Fat
(Yes, this is for you men too)

Join Speaker Tim Jones, MD
Dr. Jones will tell you about the latest scientific breakthroughs and methods that help you permanently and safely remove unwanted belly fat while quickly reclaiming your health, your youth, and your life!

Tuesday, July 24th at 6:30pm

Free admission & gourmet meal
Must RSVP
805-738-3595

1317 W. McCoy Ln • Santa Maria

**YOU NAME IT WE DO IT!**

Painting · Decks · Drywall · Paving · Carpentry · Fencing · Roof Repair · Remodels and more!

James Handyman Services
Serving the entire Central Coast
20 years experience
Free Estimates (805) 602-0394

**Surf Connection**
LOMPOC, CA

Your one-stop full-service surf and skate shop!

1307 North H Street • Lompoc
805-736-1730
www.surfconnection.net

Sign up for our monthly email coupons or follow us on

**National Geographic**

**50 GREATEST PHOTOGRAPHS**

Now–September 3, 2018

This exhibition transports visitors behind the lens of some of National Geographic’s most engaging images. From Steve McCurry’s unforgettable Afghan girl, to Michael “Nick” Nichols’s iconic photograph of Jane Goodall and a chimpanzee, to Thomas Abercrombie’s never-before-seen view of Mecca, the exhibition features 50 of the magazine’s most remembered and celebrated photographs from its almost 130-year history.

[Exhibition details and sponsor logos]

This exhibition is organized and traveled by the National Geographic Society.
Santa Maria City Council puts increased sales tax on November ballot

If Santa Marians want to improve and maintain the city’s public safety services, it’s going to cost.

The Santa Maria City Council voted unanimously on July 3 to put Measure U2018, the Public Safety and Essential Services Measure, on the Nov. 6 general election ballot. The measure, according to a city staff report, would extend the existing sales tax approved by voters in 2012 and increase it from .25 to 1 percent.

If passed, the increased tax is expected to generate about $18 million annually, all of which city officials say would go toward maintaining local public safety and “quality of life” services. The current .25 percent tax, Measure U2012, produces nearly $5 million in local public safety funding each year, City Manager Jason Stilwell said at the July 3 City Council meeting. The measure funds 27 public safety positions, Stilwell said, along with other city positions, and has helped the city deter gang violence, lower crime rates, and improve emergency response times.

The current rate is set to expire on Dec. 31, 2021, and Stilwell said Measure U2012 would both expand that deadline and increase funding. Without a sunset provision, he said the spiked sales tax would stay in place indefinitely unless future community members choose to vote it out. The ballot measure would also raise local sales taxes, but Stilwell said Santa Maria’s taxes would still be lower than many areas in California, and the resulting funds could not be taken by the state—an issue many community and council members discussed on July 3.

The state, Stilwell said, has taken $55 million from the city throughout the last 25 years through property taxes, eliminating the redevelopment authority, and “skimming” property tax administration fees.

“Fifty-five million dollars over 25 years is a lot of money for the state to take from us,” Mayor Alice Patino said at the meeting, and practically every month the state comes down with something else they’re taking from us. And I know the Chamber had a slogan, ‘Shop local.’ Well just not shop local, but tax local.”

The council members—and several residents—wholeheartedly agreed.

Santa Maria resident Gale McNeely called Measure U “regressive,” and said it would unfairly tax even the lowest-income individuals in town indefinitely. McNeely said the tax would do nothing to address many of the city’s long-ignored issues—including its lack of adequate soccer fields and cultural and civic centers—and that the ballot measure was “sold” to the community through fearmongering. McNeely also said a pair of city surveys, lengthy questionnaires used to assess the feasibility of getting a Measure U extension and increase passed, were skewed to show community support for public safety services.

In the surveys—one of which was an 18-minute phone interview that a private polling company conducted with 460 Santa Maria residents, and the other a written questionnaire that more than 800 residents completed—locals were asked to share what they thought the city needed more of.

In both surveys, city Public Information Officer Mark van de Kamp said residents listed gang suppression and crime prevention efforts, prompt 911 response times, fully staffed fire stations, and the continuation of at-risk youth programs as their top priorities.

The results suggest that community members highly support the efforts Measure U funds, which could seem suspicious, but Councilmember Jack Boysen said the city wouldn’t want inaccurate results.

“Obviously when this goes to a vote we don’t want a polling company telling us we can get a 65 percent approval rating then find out we only get 40 percent of the votes,” Boysen told the Sun. “We wanted an honest opinion from the public.”

And Boysen said public safety really is, and should be, the city’s No. 1 priority, and with more and more of the city’s budget going toward its mounting structural deficit, he said public safety services are going to need as much help as they can get.

“Be honest with you, we would have to cut services severely just to maintain a very basic level of public safety,” Boysen said. “We could live without parks, we could live without a library, but we can’t live without police, we can’t live without the fire department.”

—Kasey Bubnash
crews hailed from as far north as Santa Maria. More than 500 personnel were on scene. The Holiday Fire's height, 75 engines and 10 tenders on the ground.

“Evacuation plans are in place,” Eliason said. “We have to be prepared.”

“We have to be prepared for anything,” he said, referencing the devastating and deadly windstorms in the American West in recent years. The winds created sporadic fire behavior, which made it difficult for firefighters to respond effectively.

The winds created sporadic fire behavior, which made it difficult for firefighters to respond effectively.

“We were always taught that for the urban wildland interface and marched right into the urban,” Eliason said. “We had 5-gallon water bottles, and wires down that we couldn’t tell if they were live or not.”

Crews were able to make a stand at La Goleta Road and eventually suppress and tame the rampant blaze. But they were lucky, fire officials say.

If not for the accurate weather forecast, the fire could have potentially burned completely out of control.

“There was zero visibility, with fire on both sides of the road, it was hopscotching around,” Eliason said. “We had 5-gallon propane tanks and aerosol cans blowing up, and wires down that we couldn’t tell if they were live or not.”

Crews were able to make a stand at La Goleta Road and eventually suppress and tame the rampant blaze. But they were lucky, fire officials say.

If not for the accurate weather forecast, the fire could have potentially burned completely out of control.

“We knew the red flag conditions,” Eliason said. “We knew the temperatures were extremely high. We knew the weather was coming, and we knew the relative humidity was bone dry.”

Which is why fire strike teams were on hand to be a part of the initial dispatch calling for firefighters to respond. Still, Eliason noted, “It’s witchcraft predicting weather on the West Coast,” and crews may not be as well placed the next time a spark roars to life.

And everyone should be ready when it happens. “It’s a horrible, horrible cliche and it sounds like a terrible talking point, but it was explosive fire behavior,” Eliason said. “This is the new normal… this is the way it is.”

—Spencer Cole

SMAT bus driver involved in fatal collision will not face criminal charges

The Santa Maria city bus driver involved in April’s fatal collision with a bicyclist will not face criminal charges, according to the Santa Barbara County District Attorney’s Office.

Santa Barbara resident Veronica Perez, 43, was seriously injured when she was hit by a Route 7 Santa Maria Area Transit (SMAT) bus just before 6 p.m. on April 2. The bus was headed west on East McCoy Lane when it collided with Perez near the corner of Caballero Lane, according to Mark van de Kamp, public information officer for the city.

Perez was cycling in the bike lane on McCoy when she was hit, van de Kamp said in a media statement on April 3. She was taken by helicopter to Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, where she died on April 8 due to injuries caused by the collision.

The District Attorney’s Office determined on June 28 that after a nearly months-long investigation into the incident, the unnamed driver would not be charged.

Based on the traffic collision investigation conducted by the Santa Maria Police Department, and their determination that the bicyclist caused this collision, we determined that no criminal charges would be filed against the bus driver in this unfortunate and tragic event,” Chief Deputy District Attorney Mag Nicolaa wrote in an email to the Sun.

The decision comes more than a month after the city of Santa Maria formally rejected four $10,000 legal claims filed by Perez’s family in May. The claims, which typically serve as the legal step just before filing a lawsuit, were filed immediately following Perez’s death on behalf of her husband and three children, according to Ruben Ruiz, a Ventura-based accidents and injuries attorney representing the Perez family.

The city rejected the claims in a letter on May 25, Ruiz said in a previous interview, and he and his clients still have several months to file a formal complaint through the court system.

Ruiz could not be reached for a comment on the District Attorney’s recent decision.

—Kasey Bubnash

Clarification

In the July 5 news article, “Ballot initiative aims to redraw county supervisorial districts,” the Sun incorrectly said that Reason in Government was “new.” The organization formed in 2016. ☘
Dividing lines
Pair of competing ordinances aim to control supervisory redistricting process
BY SPENCER COLE

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors and citizen activists traded barbs over two competing ordinances that aim to redraw the supervisors’ district boundaries. The conflict was pushed into public discussion during two separate hearings at the board’s regular meeting on July 2. At issue were the differing language and requirements found in the ordinances, particularly how the redistricting commissions would be composed, or to put it simply, just who will be in charge of setting county electoral lines.

One proposed ordinance came from Chair Das Williams’ office, while the other hailed from a group called Reason in Government, which, according to its website, represents what it calls the “voice of the radical center.”

At the meeting, the dividing lines between the two groups became readily apparent, with Williams pushing his version, and Reason in Government, led by real estate and public affairs consultant Robert Collector, arguing for their own.

One proposed ordinance came from Chair Das Williams’ office, while the other hailed from a group called Reason in Government, which, according to its website, represents what it calls the “voice of the radical center.”

At the meeting, the dividing lines between the two groups became readily apparent, with Williams pushing his version, and Reason in Government, led by real estate and public affairs consultant Robert Collector, arguing for their own.

Around a dozen public speakers spoke in favor of Williams’ more complicated ordinance, and called into question the intent of Reason in Government’s initiative. One speaker accused the latter of disingenuous tactics in how it obtained signatures for its ballot initiative, while another

“...bought and paid for.”

The meeting took a decided tone as public comment on the hearings wrapped up. “I’m very pleased there’s an inherent admission, which is that elected officials should not be drawing their own districts—the voters should,” said Joe Armendariz with the Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association.

By the day’s conclusion, Williams was making to be made by three people out of the five on the commission, said one speaker, who explained he had worked on the previous iteration that created the current county supervisory districts. “I don’t get it—the three elected officials as has been in the past is supposed to be problematic, but three people whose names are originally drawn at random seems to be what is being proposed.”

Reason in Government’s redistricting commission would be made up of five members, plus five alternatives, and stipulates that they must not be “affiliated with a political party” and cannot have changed their “political party affiliation in the preceding eight years of being appointed to the commission.”

The organization’s proposal also precludes citizens who have been “elected, appointed to, or been a candidate for an elective office of a local jurisdiction,” as well as those who have done consulting and any official work with a political party. Moreover, the proposed initiative limits those who serve on its board from serving on other commissions, lobbying locally, or accepting any appointments to “an office of the local jurisdiction.”

More than one speaker noted that the proposed restrictions would limit political participation. Collector responded by saying: “The most important thing to us is that our initiative achieve its stated goal of independence, impartiality, and fairness. We want this to be Caesar’s wife—above reproach. We want this ordinance to have no way, no loophole, no added complication that allow anybody but the public to draw these lines.”

Williams’ “You Draw the Lines” on the other hand, would have 11 commissioners, as opposed to five, and has a process for removing members, as well as additional qualifications to base on selecting the board.

The ordinance borrowed largely from existing state law and similar redistricting commissions in Los Angeles and San Diego counties. “You Draw the Lines” would require seven votes for any official action.

Lindsey Baker, with the Santa Barbara County League of Women Voters, spoke in favor of the redistricting effort without giving favor to either ordinance.

Following the contentious discussion, Adam softened his tone, calling Williams’ proposal “a good faith effort to do the right thing,” and asked only for a few minor changes in regard to state law.

“I don’t mind supporting this,” he added. “The rest of the document is good. This actually kind of restores my faith in society a little bit.”

Fifth District Supervisor Steve Lavagnino gave one of the final comments of the day and thanked Collector and Reason in Government for their efforts.

“I hope everybody here understands, whether you like Mr. Collector’s work or disagree with it, I promise we would never have been discussing this without [it],” he said. “Whether you agree with what their product was, or not, it did put us in a position where we had to confront this, and I’m excited about that.”

Staff Writer Spencer Cole can be reached at scole@santamariasun.com.

---

**Advertisement**

**Get The Motor Runnin’ On That Sale!**

No spam or scams here! Private parties–list your Auto/Boat sales for FREE in our Classifieds section. Send up to 30 words + 1 image to classified@santamariasun.com, subject line: FREE AUTO/BOAT. Your ad will appear in print and online, hassle free!

Sun SantaMariaSun.com
Spotlight on: Santa Barbara County Fair

Shelly Cone, public relations

By Spencer Cole

Old on to your cowboy hats, the fair is back in town.

The annual event, now celebrating its 127th year, features the state’s largest junior livestock auction, big-name musical artists, and an assortment of local foods ranging from jams, jellies, pies, homemade quilts, floriculture, and photography at the Santa Maria Fairpark.

“It’s going to be a boot-stomping, rip-roaring good time,” Fairpark public relations official Shelly Cone said.

This Wednesday, July 11, marked the first day of activities and offered half-off admission prices for patrons who arrived before 3 p.m. This Thursday, July 12, is Senior Appreciation Day, with $1 tickets for seniors 62 years and older; all other admissions are again half price before 3 p.m.

On Friday, the fair celebrates Cattleman and Agriculture Day, which will then be followed by Pepsi’s Military and Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on Saturday. Active duty military members, law enforcement, and first responders with valid ID will be admitted free of charge.

The following Sunday is Fiesta Day, with a “Hispanic concert” in the Budweiser Minetti Arena. The day is a separate ticketed event, according to Cone.

General admission during the fair is $8 for ages 6-11; $12 for ages 12-61; and $8 for ages 62 and older.

The fair will again host a destruction derby, an event that pits competing cars against one another in a crash-filled battle royale until only one vehicle is left standing (or intact). Tickets for the derby are $12 for general admission and $18 for box seats. Destruction derby tickets can only be purchased at the Fairpark ticket office.

The current concert schedule is Smash Mouth on July 11 as part of the Bud Light Concert Series; Trace Adkins will perform July 12; Kool and the Gang takes the stage on July 13; and Sheila E. performs on July 14. All KCOY Main Stage entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m. and is free with paid admission.

But that’s not all that will be offered in terms of recreation.

“There are plenty of carnival rides, animals, petting zoos, pony rides, and of course lots of fantastic fair food in a wholesome, old-fashioned atmosphere for the whole family to enjoy,” Cone said, adding that there will also be a “live shark experience,” live comedy acts, an inaugural event called Cowboys and Calliopes, “where you’ll get to explore the sounds of nature.”

The rides this year are provided by Helms and Sons Amusements and feature “thrill rides that older kids, teens, and adults can’t resist,” according to a company spokesperson. A few of the rides were once owned and kept by Michael Jackson at his Neverland Ranch. Unlimited carnival ride wristbands are $33.

In total, the week-long event is expected to bring in roughly 150,000 attendees.

For more info, visit santamariasfairpark.com or the fair’s Facebook page.

Highlights:

- The Career Pathways for Youth program put on its second annual Santa Maria Youth Summit in June. Career Pathways for Youth and its two-day program are funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration and provides summer employment preparation activities for area kids in order to reduce youth violence. “The goal was to provide youth in our community with a positive summer activity that would prepare them for their future careers,” said Luis Servin, program manager for the Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board.

- On Aug. 18, Marian Regional Medical Center will host its foundation’s annual dinner: Vineyard and Vistas. All proceeds from the charitable event will go to support advancing pediatric services at the medical center. As of 2018, Marian serves 35,000 pediatric patients a year. That population represents a 26 percent increase in pediatric volume since opening the new hospital in 2012. Currently, highly specialized pediatric care is nonexistent on the Central Coast, forcing families to travel out of the area to Los Angeles, the Central Valley, or the Bay Area for the advanced care. For more information, visit supportmariannmedical.org/annualdinner. 

Staff Writer Spencer Cole wrote this week’s Biz Spotlight. Information should be sent to the Sun via fax, mail, or email at spotlight@santamariasun.com.
Come See Our Professionals...
FOR A GREAT DEAL!

2051 S. Broadway
Santa Maria
805-347-1121
Abbey Carpet & Floor

The 34th Annual Central Coast Renaissance Festival

July 21 & 22
Laguna Lake Park
San Luis Obispo
10 AM - 6 PM

Jousting By
The Knights of Mayhem

Four Stages of Fascinating Entertainment
- Plays - Comedy - Singing - Music - Dancing
- Falconry - Juggling - Acrobatics - Parrot Act
- Games - Magic Show - Children's Costume Contest

Pirate Ship & Pirate Row
Fine Food And Drink - Unique Shopping

Advance Tickets, Information & Directions At
CCRenFaire.com

LEYLAND, Coots,
AND Holland

WED. AUGUST 8, 2018
6–9pm
Cardinal Garden Concerts

MY 805 TIX.COM
ALL TICKETS. ONE PLACE.
ON SALE NOW!

OLD FASHIONED
SONNY LEYLAND
BRIAN HOLLAND
DANNY Coots

Santa Maria Inn
SINCE 1937
A beautiful, full-service property located in the heart of Santa Maria
- Banquet Facilities for groups of up to 350
- Garden Room Restaurant offering a champagne Sunday Brunch
- English Pub with Happy Hour
- Wine Cellar offering complimentary appetizers

801 S. Broadway
805-928-7777
www.santamariainn.com

Servicios para Juventud en Red

LO QUE OFRECEMOS:
- Pagada Experiencia de Trabajo
- Asistencia con Transportación
- Entrevistas y Ropa para Entrevistas
- Talleres de Habilidades para el Empleo
- Competición de Metas Incentivos
- Sombra del Trabajo y Exploración de Carreras
- Asistencias Profesionales
- Otros tipos de Soporte Para el Empleo

QUIEN CALIFICA:
- El juvenil de edades 16 a 24
- Residentes del Condado de Santa Barbara
- Tiene que tener una o más de los siguientes requisitos:
  - estar sin hogar
  - antecedentes penales
  - discapacidad documentada
  - estudiante de Ingles
  - embarazada/crianza
  - ausente de escuela

Persigamos en @youthnetworkedservicessb
www.santamariasun.com • July 12 - July 19, 2018 • Sun • 9
Skyview Los Alamos reopens with a big makeover

BY REBECCA ROSE • PHOTOS BY JAYSON MELLOM

The motel with the campy, giant yellow sign was never talked about much. But I had always been curious—myself a bit of a retrophile—about the Skyview Motel in Los Alamos. The sleepy motel had earned a dubious nickname from some locals. They dubbed it the Psycho motel, and its seemingly ominous and withdrawn presence overlooking Los Alamos did nothing to dissuade people from dubbing it “creepy.”

But that perception is about to change. The location reopened in April as Skyview Los Alamos after more than two years of work and renovations, the passion project of the Nomada Hotel Group, based in San Luis Obispo. With 33 rooms situated on a sprawling 5-acre property high atop a hill, plus a pool, full restaurant, bar, and a vineyard, Skyview is a secluded getaway ideal not just for travelers looking for a resting place between big cities. It’s a destination for sojourners, a relaxing hideaway where there’s little more to do than ignore your phone, lounge by the pool, and soak in the serenity.

Lost in time

One of the first things I noticed as I pulled into the lot at Skyview is the row of brightly colored bicycles resting by a shed. These are Linus bikes, a specialty brand that sells bikes ranging from $300 to $700. They’re affixed with wooden crates and were mine for the taking. (Sort of.) It’s one of the many high-end touches that feel rustic and authentic permeating Skyview’s property.

Guests are encouraged to hop on a Linus and head over (or, more accurately, under, as in under Highway 101) to Los Alamos and explore the town, do some shopping and dining, and experience the community beyond the grounds of the hotel property.

But as I stood in the middle of the courtyard, a combination of modern desert-friendly xeriscaping and casual California backyard, I honestly couldn’t find any good reason why I would want to leave.

That’s part of the allure, explained Kimberly Walker, managing partner of the hotel group. “It’s not about just being a place you can sleep on the way to your destination,” she said. “We really like to create properties that are the experience. … We look at it and ask: ‘What can we do so people don’t leave?’ We want people to stay here.”

It feels contradictory to say the hotel was modernized to be more retro, but that is exactly what Nomada did. What’s old is new again, upgraded with 21st century technological savvy that’s still beholden to an old-fashioned heart and soul. The bed and linen are straight out of modern coastal decor, but an overstuffed leather chair wouldn’t seem out of place in a ranch house back in the 1870s. Nomada made it a priority to keep the mid-century architecture intact, and reminders of its presence are everywhere.

The design aesthetic is somewhere between modern rustic and California desert ranch, dotted with accents of pure luxury. Individual rooms feel minimalist but decadent; a sprawling down comforter is accented by...
Skyview is, "How can we create a place where we can just relax?" said Walker, who is no stranger to projects such as this one. She was behind the successful renovation of the Granada, sparked by her love of preserving the past.

"It was a four-table restaurant that served wines and paninis," she said. "The building was a 1920s hotel that was slated to be demolished. We designed everything ourselves. We had so much passion invested in the property we didn’t even think about letting somebody else take over the design."

They approached Skyview with the same plan. She admitted the骨头 were very good, it just was not given the love that it needed. The views are amazing. It sits on all this land. It has 2 acres of pinot. Walker and the group envisioned Skyview as a boutique hotel similar to their Granada Hotel in SLO. She said they wanted the demographic they cater to at Granada to feel like Skyview was an extension of that property and, more importantly, a hat tip to the community it overlooks.

"I really wanted to pay homage to those mid-century roots while also focusing on the roots of Los Alamos—a Western wine country town," she said. "The best places we’ve ever stayed at aren’t necessarily these big, sprawling five-star resorts. They’re the kind of place where you feel there is a nomadic essence. I think that evokes such a special feeling, when you can walk into a place and feel that it’s a traveler’s home."

Preservations

The Skyview has been on an interesting journey of its own over the past 60 years.

The property was first open in 1959, part of America’s motel boom, when locally owned properties dominated the highways and byways. (The Beatles are rumored to have stayed there once.) By 1997, the property had been purchased by Don and Jan Macintyre, the latter of whom auctioned the property off to Michael Schoff in 2003. At the time, the property and buildings were valued at about $1.4 million. For the next decade, the hotel slowly fell into disrepair, eventually renting rooms out by the month.

That’s when the Nomada Hotel Group stepped in. The group—Walker, Mike Kyle, Roy Ogden, and Darren Smith—snapped up the property for under $2 million in 2016. It was the beginning of a two-year process that would include a total renovation, not just in the physical look.

Walker is no stranger to projects such as this one. She was behind the successful renovation of the Granada, sparked by her love of preserving the past.

"It was a four-table restaurant that served wines and paninis," she said. "The building was a 1920s hotel that was slated to be demolished. So a group of us decided to buy it, because we loved the bistro so much. We designed everything ourselves. We had so much passion invested into the property we didn’t even think about letting somebody else take over the design."

They approached Skyview with the same plan. She admitted the hilltop hotel had always seemed a bit creepy and that she had never ventured up to see it, but once she laid eyes on the property, it was a different story.

"We really believe in restoring discarded properties and giving them new life," she said. "When we saw Skyview, we really fell in love with it. The views are amazing. It sits on all this land. It has 2 acres of pinot. The bones were very good, it just was not given the love that it needed to thrive like when it was built in 1959."

View from the hill

You can't tell how special the setting at Skyview really is until you find a moment alone in it.

Here, in a quiet space divorced of the sounds of Highway 101, it's not about the millions of dollars spent to purchase and refurbish it. It's not about speculating at the economic impact of commercial and residential development in the region or the health of the hotel industry in Santa Barbara County.

It's about a horse grazing in a pasture, far enough away to not be scared off as I try to steady my hand for a picture, but close enough that I can see its breath, steaming and rising over his long face.

There are many quiet and downright unexpected moments like this at Skyview. For people like me, who aren’t lucky enough to live in the more rural areas of the Santa Maria Valley and have to resign ourselves to apartment dwellings carved out of suburban enclaves, moments like this are a rarity. Writing about food and wine for the past few years has given me an appreciation for what phrases like “farm to table” mean, but I rarely get a chance to walk in the footsteps of the people who make it possible.

"We live in such a busy time," Walker said. "Everybody is so busy and going 100 miles an hour. What we always think about with Skyview is, 'How can we create a place where we can just relax?'"
Federal funding reinstated to Community Action Partnership sex ed programs

BY KASEY BUBNASH

I t's been a financially rocky year for some Community Action Partnership San Luis Obispo programs, but because of a recent federal court ruling, the nonprofit will continue offering its reproductive education courses to local schools and youth organizations. Community Action Partnership won grant funding in 2015 through the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, which provides financial support for research projects aimed at decreasing teen pregnancy rates and the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STI), health educator Brooke Klever said in a previous interview with the Sun.

The funding, which Klever said was meant to last five years, was used to provide comprehensive, inclusive sex ed classes to about 25 schools on the Central Coast, including those within the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District.

Klever said Community Action Partnership's 13-lesson program includes information on all sexual orientations and gender identities, contraception, healthy relationships, and methods of protection against STIs. Its focus, she said, is on promoting safe sex more than abstinence.

But in July 2017, the Trump administration announced plans to cut nearly $200 million in federal teen pregnancy prevention grants, saying the programs being funded had proven ineffective in hampering teen pregnancy. The decision left Community Action Partnership and about 80 other organizations around the nation without funds that were supposed to last until 2020.

“We found this out July 2017, so after a month of shock we went into the mode of, ‘Is there other funding available, and if not, how can we sustain the program by charging fees?’” said Raye Fleming, director of Community Action Partnership’s Health and Prevention Division. “Well, there was no way the schools could afford that.”

For months the situation looked bleak, and Fleming said several employees involved with the reproductive education programs, Fleming said the nonprofit will be able to continue researching ways to better teach kids about safe sex and reproduction.

Other organizations, many of which Fleming said shut down in anticipation of the funding repeal, will not be so lucky.

With some new hires and outreach to local schools, Fleming said Community Action’s sex ed classes should be up and running soon.

“We feel it’s critical that youth have access to the health services they need,” Fleming said, “and that they say they need.”

Staff Writer Kasey Bubnash writes School Scene each week. Information can be sent to the Sun via mail, fax, or email at mail@santamariasun.com.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Carson Gooley

Although Orcutt American Little League player Carson Gooley is truly versatile on defense, head coach Jim Stollberg said his exceptional infield game is unmatched by any local athletes his age.

Although Community Action Partnership lost five employees involved with the reproductive education programs, Fleming said the nonprofit will be able to continue researching ways to better teach kids about safe sex and reproduction.

Other organizations, many of which Fleming said shut down in anticipation of the funding repeal, will not be so lucky.

With some new hires and outreach to local schools, Fleming said Community Action’s sex ed classes should be up and running soon.

“We feel it’s critical that youth have access to the health services they need,” Fleming said, “and that they say they need.”

Staff Writer Kasey Bubnash writes School Scene each week. Information can be sent to the Sun via mail, fax, or email at mail@santamariasun.com.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Carson Gooley

Although Orcutt American Little League player Carson Gooley is truly versatile on defense, head coach Jim Stollberg said his exceptional infield game is unmatched by any local athletes his age.

“Carson was our most electric player and his positive attitude made it easy for the teammates to play better every day,” Stollberg told the Sun.

Gooley, who recently wrapped up his season, was the 12-year-old Orcutt American team’s star player in the 2016 Little League World Series, where he batted .555 and drove in 11 runs.

Although Community Action Partnership lost five employees involved with the reproductive education programs, Fleming said the nonprofit will be able to continue researching ways to better teach kids about safe sex and reproduction.

Other organizations, many of which Fleming said shut down in anticipation of the funding repeal, will not be so lucky.

With some new hires and outreach to local schools, Fleming said Community Action’s sex ed classes should be up and running soon.

“We feel it’s critical that youth have access to the health services they need,” Fleming said, “and that they say they need.”

Staff Writer Kasey Bubnash writes School Scene each week. Information can be sent to the Sun via mail, fax, or email at mail@santamariasun.com.
ANTIQUE TRUCK SHOW

SATURDAY, AUG 18TH
GATES OPEN AT 5:30 SHOW STARTS AT 7PM
GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS ARE $15
(FREE ADMISSION FOR KIDS 12 & UNDER)
LIMITED VIP TABLES AVAILABLE. CALL 805-621-5369 FOR PRICING & RESERVATIONS
A CONCERT TO BE ENJOYED BY MUSIC LOVERS OF ALL AGES
* BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS
* NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK PERMITTED
* NO COOLERS OR LARGE BAGS

GET TICKETS AT MY805TIX.COM

CELEBRATING OUR 27TH YEAR

Central Coast "Cooler"

ANTIQUE TRUCK SHOW

Saturday, July 21 • Nipomo, California
9 am - 4 pm • Nipomo High School

www.Central-Coast-ATHS.org

A Free Event
No tickets, no reservations needed

City of Santa Maria

Downtown Fridays

Every Friday through 9/28/18

Lettuce entertain YOU!

FRESH. FUN. FRIDAYS.

Friday's 5:30PM to 8:30PM

Enjoy a grand ol’ evening and support the Dunes Center’s educational programs and activities at a once-in-a-lifetime experience to commemorate the unveiling of the artifacts most recently excavated from Cecil B. DeMille’s movie set site.

FEATURING
Festive Period Attire • Music by the Tipsy Gypsies • Cash bar featuring 1920’s-themed craft cocktails, local wine, and beer • Hors d’oeuvres by the Far Western Tavern • Live Auction • Entertaining Museum Activities

HAPPENING
Saturday, July 21, 2018 | 5pm
Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center
1065 Guadalupe Street, Guadalupe, California

Purchase tickets at dunescenter.org/sphinx

EVENT SPONSORS

An Evening of History, Decades in the Making
SPHINX & DRINKS
Gala, Auction, and Artifact Debut
Benefiting the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

www.santamariasun.com • July 12 - July 19, 2018 • Sun • 13
Lompoc’s downward spiral continues

BY ANN RUHGE

We have been living in Lompoc for 24 years. During that time my husband and I have devoted our lives to improving the quality of life in this city. We have volunteered our time and what little extra funds we have to support many of the positive events, activities, and ongoing projects that we believed would improve the image of this city.

In the past four years we have watched and tried very hard to halt the poorly thought out decisions of the members of the Lompoc City Council who have continued to do everything they can to change this city from a family-friendly and safe place to live to now a city that welcomes one and all as long as these council members think they are going to make money on their projects. This has been done without any regard to the impact on the safety and wellbeing of our families.

The decisions have gone to allowing “safe and sane” fireworks into the community, which supposedly would bring all this money to our nonprofits and the city. This decision was made against all the testimony from our public safety personnel and many community members who pointed out the liabilities and problems associated with fireworks, which are shot off by some members of the public. That situation keeps getting worse every year!

Then we had to put up with a proposal to put a motorsports park on airport property that belongs to the city. This has gone on for five years and has cost the city thousands of hours in staff time and depleted some of our funds in the process. Due to the stubbornness of a past mayor and his minions, we are still going to be faced with this proposal until the City Council finally says, “Enough!”

Now we come to the cannabis “industry” and its assertions and requests for the city to welcome those associated with the business into our lovely, safe, and hardworking community. This issue has made me ask: “Why?” Once again, this project is costing the city thousands of dollars hiring a consultant and using valuable staff time to appease this very vocal group of people.

An ordinance has been written that states areas where these businesses can and cannot set up shops. There is to be a 600-foot buffer zone around all centers or businesses that are considered to be youth centers. This is done for the protection of our children and families. For some illogical reason, three members of the council have decided that dance studios are not considered youth centers. This has gone on for three to four hours. Last year we called the fireworks shows have run continuously for three to four hours. Last year we called the fire department to respond to some of the noise, which was considered to be loud and disturbing.

Fireworks in Santa Maria

For the past three or four years my next door neighbors have thrown a very large Fourth of July party, and every year they have ignited illegal fireworks.

The fireworks shows have run continuously for three to four hours. Last year we called the “Santa Maria Fireworks Hotline,” and were informed that no police would be dispatched unless and until another resident called with a complaint. Why spend city resources on television ads and inserts to our utility bills if we’re not going to enforce the rules? Who will be liable when a child is killed or an adult loses a hand?

The new GOP

Thanks to Michael Smith for his nonsensical column on the horror story that is Donald Trump (“Trump’s not a Republican,” June 28), Whether or not America survives this administration, there is no doubt historians will not look kindly on his term in office.

However, Mr. Smith’s article does not support its title, “Trump’s not a Republican.” Although Trump clearly does not fit the definition of what a Republican used to be, the current Republican party is most definitely in the mold of Trump: angry, racist, lying, and utterly vicious to its political enemies.

That, my friends, is the new GOP.

Seán Mac Andhla
Guadalupe

LETTERS continued page 15

LETTERS

Concerned Citizen
Santa Maria
Library Shop should stay

I read with interest City Librarian Mary Housel’s comments in the “Library Shop to close after lift with library” article (July 5). I have been a librarian for 31 years, as well as currently serving on the Friends Board, and have never encountered a city librarian who felt they needed to evict a group that raises $40,000 a year for the library in favor of offering passport services available many other places.

The Friends have operated many years in the space designated for them and provided hundreds of thousands of dollars of support during that time. Will the passport offices offer free and low-cost books to children? Will the passport service provide direct support to library programs and events? Why is the Friends group suddenly a liability, after so many years? This is a sad turn of events and makes little business sense at a time when the city of Santa Maria has announced a serious budget shortfall that may result in public safety service cuts.

Is anyone on the Santa Maria City Council paying attention?

Nancy Meddings
Orcutt

Library Shop does good work

Congratulations to the Friends of the Santa Maria Public Library for 10 years of dedicated service to the people of the Santa Maria Valley through their operation of the Library Shop at the Santa Maria Public Library. I especially thank the 40 volunteers and shop manager, Nancy Marriott, who staff the shop and work to keep it stocked with books and other materials.

With the generous financial help of the Hutton Foundation, Weingart Foundation, and the Santa Maria Community Foundation, the Library Shop was created to be a unique retail business staffed by volunteers and headed by a part-time manager. For 10 years, the shop has more than fulfilled expectations to be a place of welcome to library patrons and visitors while at the same time raising funds for library programs and services. Over the years it continued to adhere to its mission of furthering an interest in reading and library materials, focusing attention on library services and programs, attracting visitors to the library, and encouraging the community to support the library’s financial and other needs.

Congratulations to all who made the Shop a success! You have shown both the face and heart of volunteerism uniting and benefiting our community.

Sheyhn Pratt
Santa Maria

Supreme Court nomination

Now that there is a vacancy in the Supreme Court of the United States, Americans and U.S. senators should be reminded that there is still a nomination for the Supreme Court that was never appropriately dealt with. Now is the time for Americans and senators to stand behind the nomination of Merrick Garland to be our next Supreme Court justice. Merrick Garland would be a superior nominee than any nominee that the current president would nominate. Americans deserve to have a fair, open-minded justice on the Supreme Court. Let’s promote the nominee that was never dealt with before we consider any nominee that President Trump advances.

Kim Pendleton
Nipomo
Guadalupe Cultural Arts & Education Center
Open to the public: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 4pm

For all questions please contact Karen Evangelista at 805-478-8502
Email: karen@guadalupeculturalcenter.com

1055 Guadalupe St., Guadalupe CA
www.GuadalupeCulturalCenter.com

---

Don’t flush money down the toilet.
Fixing leaks can save hundreds of gallons.

SAVE WATER, SAVE MONEY!
For tips go to our website: www.ncsd.ca.gov or social media

---

Eat up the local food & drink scene
every Thursday

SantaMariaSun.com/eats/
4TH ANNUAL WEST COAST CUB FLY-IN
Visitors can walk among the aircraft, observe the flying events, and interact with the pilots. More than 100 planes are expected to participate.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS
5TH ANNUAL FREE MOVIES IN THE PARK
Featured films include Back to the Future, Grease, Black Panther, and more. Venues include Sierra Vista Park, Presider Park, Rotary Centennial Park, and more. Saturdays, through Aug. 18, 805-925-0951 ext. 2260. Rotary Centennial Park, 2625 South College Dr., Santa Maria.

JAPANESE OBON FESTIVAL
This festival celebrates Japanese ancestry with traditional Obon dances, martial arts demonstrations, Bonsai displays, and more. Also features arts and crafts vendors, foods including chicken teriyaki, sushi, barbecue kushiyaki, udon, fried wontons, and more. Can enjoy various vendors, shows, family activities, and more. Both days are set in the reign of Queen Elizabeth in England, but the emphasis shifts to pirates on Sunday. July 21-22, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. $15-$30, 805-781-7222. CCRenFaire.com. Laguna Lake Park, 584 Madonna Rd., San Luis Obispo.

CENTRAL COAST SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
Features As You Like It and The Three Musketeers. Enjoy food and wine available onsite or pack a picnic. No outside alcohol allowed. Thursdays-Saturdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. through Aug. 4. $12-$20, 805-441-1136; centralcoastshakespeare.org/. Filipponi Ranch, 1850 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo.

SANTA MARIA BARBARA COUNTY FAIR
"Cowboys and Cowgirls!" is the theme of this year’s Santa Barbara County Fair. This annual event features carnival games, rides, educational exhibits, live music, and more.
Through July 15 santamariafairpark.com, Santa Maria Fairpark, 937 S. Thornburg St., Santa Maria.

COUNTRY TOWN COUNTRY TWO STEP DANCE LESSONS
Learn traditional Japanese Obon dances. An Obon festival takes place July 22, where the dances can be performed by anyone who wants to participate. Novices are welcome. July 18, 6:30-9 p.m. Free. 805-343-1053. guadalupebuddhistchurch.org. Veteran’s Memorial Community Center, 313 W. Tunnell Street, Santa Maria.

SALSA DANCE CLASS

UKULELE CLASS
Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. 805-714-6410, guadalupebuddhistchurch.org. Veteran’s Memorial Community Center, 313 W. Tunnell Street, Santa Maria.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FAIR
"Cowboys and Cowgirls!" is the theme of this year’s Santa Barbara County Fair. This annual event features carnival games, rides, educational exhibits, live music, and more. Venues include Sierra Vista Park, Presider Park, Rotary Centennial Park, and more. Saturdays, through Aug. 18, 805-925-0951 ext. 2260. Rotary Centennial Park, 2625 South College Dr., Santa Maria.

JAPANESE OBON FESTIVAL
This free festival celebrates Japanese ancestry with traditional Obon dances, martial arts demonstrations, Bonsai displays, and more. Can enjoy various vendors, shows, family activities, and more. Both days are set in the reign of Queen Elizabeth in England, but the emphasis shifts to pirates on Sunday. July 21-22, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. $15-$30, 805-781-7222. CCRenFaire.com. Laguna Lake Park, 584 Madonna Rd., San Luis Obispo.

CENTRAL COAST SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
Features As You Like It and The Three Musketeers. Enjoy food and wine available onsite or pack a picnic. No outside alcohol allowed. Thursdays-Saturdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. through Aug. 4. $12-$20, 805-441-1136; centralcoastshakespeare.org/. Filipponi Ranch, 1850 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo.

SANTA MARIA BARBARA COUNTY FAIR
"Cowboys and Cowgirls!" is the theme of this year’s Santa Barbara County Fair. This annual event features carnival games, rides, educational exhibits, live music, and more. Venues include Sierra Vista Park, Presider Park, Rotary Centennial Park, and more. Saturdays, through Aug. 18, 805-925-0951 ext. 2260. Rotary Centennial Park, 2625 South College Dr., Santa Maria.

JAPANESE OBON FESTIVAL
This free festival celebrates Japanese ancestry with traditional Obon dances, martial arts demonstrations, Bonsai displays, and more. Can enjoy various vendors, shows, family activities, and more. Both days are set in the reign of Queen Elizabeth in England, but the emphasis shifts to pirates on Sunday. July 21-22, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. $15-$30, 805-781-7222. CCRenFaire.com. Laguna Lake Park, 584 Madonna Rd., San Luis Obispo.

CENTRAL COAST SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
Features As You Like It and The Three Musketeers. Enjoy food and wine available onsite or pack a picnic. No outside alcohol allowed. Thursdays-Saturdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. through Aug. 4. $12-$20, 805-441-1136; centralcoastshakespeare.org/. Filipponi Ranch, 1850 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo.
ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

CHUMASH GRANDSTAND ARENA

**MIDSTATE FAIR**
America's Favorite Fair

**FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE**
WITH MORGAN WALLEN
**WEDNESDAY** **JULY 18**
FROM **$50**

**PITBULL**
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
**THURSDAY** **JULY 19**
FROM **$41**

**DWIGHT YOAKAM**
**FRIDAY** **JULY 20**
FROM **$31**

**ERIC CHurch**
WITH THE CADILLAC THREE
**SATURDAY** **JULY 21**
FROM **$51**

**DEMI LOVATO**
WITH IGGY AZALEA
**SUNDAY** **JULY 22**
FROM **$31**

**GABRIEL IGLESIAS**
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
**MONDAY** **JULY 23**
FROM **$26**

**TIM & FAITH**
WITH JAKE ROSE
**TUESDAY** **JULY 24**
FROM **$51**

**ZZ TOP**
WITH GEORGE THOROGOOD
**WEDNESDAY** **JULY 25**
FROM **$31**

**LUKE BRYAN**
WITH JON PARDI
**THURSDAY** **JULY 26**
FROM **$51**

**KC AND THE SUNSHINE BAND**
**FRIDAY** **JULY 27**
FROM **$26**

**COUNTRY RODEO FINALS**
**SATURDAY** **JULY 28**
FROM **$26**

**BIKES, BULLS & PULLS**
**SUNDAY** **JULY 29**
FROM **$20**

MIDSTATEFAIR.COM / 1.800.909.FAIR
WHAT’S NEW THIS YEAR

✦ SHOWCASE OF CITIES
✦ CAREER FAIR
✦ MISSION MARKETPLACE
✦ CRAFT BEER TASTING
✦ PIG RACES
✦ SPECIAL SHEEP & GOAT SHOWS
✦ VIP HOSPITALITY TENT

STRONGEST MAN & WOMAN COMPETITION

SATURDAY, JULY 28
4:00-9:00 PM
HEADLINER STAGE

FARM FRESH KIDS

DAILY
NOON-9:00 PM
RANCHO FRONTIER HANDS-ON!

KIDS ART SMART

DAILY
NOON-6:00 PM
FRONTIER PAVILION

PIG RACES

DAILY
1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 PM
EDNA VALLEY BARN

WHAT’S NEW THIS YEAR

✦ SHOWCASE OF CITIES
✦ CAREER FAIR
✦ MISSION MARKETPLACE
✦ CRAFT BEER TASTING
✦ PIG RACES
✦ SPECIAL SHEEP & GOAT SHOWS
✦ VIP HOSPITALITY TENT

STRONGEST MAN & WOMAN COMPETITION

SATURDAY, JULY 28
4:00-9:00 PM
HEADLINER STAGE

FARM FRESH KIDS

DAILY
NOON-9:00 PM
RANCHO FRONTIER HANDS-ON!

KIDS ART SMART

DAILY
NOON-6:00 PM
FRONTIER PAVILION

PIG RACES

DAILY
1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 PM
EDNA VALLEY BARN

FEATURED ATTRACTIONS

WESTERN WILDERNESS OASIS

DAILY
NOON-10:00 PM
PONDEROSA PAVILION

DRAFT HORSE SHOW

SUNDAY, JULY 22
1:00 PM & 3:00 PM
EQUESTRIAN CENTER

CRAFT BEER TASTING & AWARDS

MONDAY, JULY 23
5:00 PM
MISSION SQUARE

WINE INDUSTRY AWARDS & TASTING

FRIDAY, JULY 20
5:00 PM
MISSION SQUARE

CARNIVAL

DAILY
NOON-MIDNIGHT

MISSION MARKETPLACE

DAILY
NOON-MIDNIGHT
ESTRELLA HALL

GET CRAFTY

SUNDAY, JULY 22
COMPETITION AT 3:30 PM,
TASTING AT 5:00 PM
MISSION SQUARE

BARN DANCE

DAILY
9:00 PM
HEADLINER STAGE

FARM FRESH KIDS

DAILY
NOON-9:00 PM
RANCHO FRONTIER HANDS-ON!

KIDS ART SMART

DAILY
NOON-6:00 PM
FRONTIER PAVILION

PIG RACES

DAILY
1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 PM
EDNA VALLEY BARN

FORT FRONTIER STAGE

FREE WITH PAID FAIR ADMISSION

LOS LONELY BOYS

WEDNESDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

CASSADEE POPE

THURSDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

CRYSTAL GAYLE

FRIDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY

SATURDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

LOS YONICS

SUNDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

FOR KING & COUNTRY

MONDAY
8:00 PM

SOUTHERN ACCENTS

TUESDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

DEVIN DAWSON

WEDNESDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

BLOOD, SWEAT & TEARS

THURSDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

GARY PUCKETT & THE UNION GAP

FRIDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

KRIS KRISTOFFERSON

SATURDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

SAUL EL JAGUAR

SUNDAY
6:30 PM & 8:30 PM

MIDSTATEFAIR.COM / 1.800.909.FAIR

www.santamariasun.com • July 12 - July 19, 2018 • Sun • 19
THE WIZARD OF OZ Presented by Kelirk Productions. July 14, 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. and July 15, 2-4 p.m. $20-$60. 805-756-4849. kelirkproductions.org.thers-wizard-of-o-z. Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo.

BY THE SEA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS THE MURDER ROOM This murder mystery farce can be described as a blend of Agatha Christie and Monty Python. Fridays, Saturdays, 7-9 p.m. and Sundays, 3-5 p.m. through July 15 $20. 805-776-3287. bytheseaproductions.org. By The Sea Productions, 545 Shasta Ave., Morro Bay.


SLOLIO: A GATHERING OF TRUE STORIES This monthly storytelling event is open to anyone who has a true story to share based on the theme of the month. Must be told without notes. The theme of July is “Go Team”. July 18. 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-995-2867. slolio.org. Linnaea’s Cafe, 1110 Garden St., San Luis Obispo.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

LECTURES & LEARNING

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

TED AND CONVERSATION The Solvang Library screens an 18-minute talk from the TED Talks series. Afterwards, the audience explores the topic together over tea and coffee. Third Thursday of every month, 10-10:30 a.m. Free. 805-688-9314. Solvang Library, 1745 Mission Dr., Solvang.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER The center is a food pantry offering nutritional classes. Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m. Free. 805-967-5741. Ext. 207. El Camino Community Center, W. Laurel Avenue and N. 1st Street, Lompoc.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

BI-LINGO Informal conversation to practice Spanish language skills for anyone with basic Spanish speaking skills. Second Thursday of every month. 6:7 p.m. Free. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-925-0994.

NEXSTEP DIVORCE WORKSHOP An informational workshop on the process of getting a divorce. July 14. 9 a.m.-noon $30. Santa Maria Business Development Center (SMBDC), 731 S. Lincoln Ave., Santa Maria, 805-585-3828.

CLUBS & MEETINGS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION Tuesdays, 1 p.m. 805-928-7799. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

DCSMV MONTHLY MEETING Speaker sessions open to the public. Meeting for registered Democrats only. Third Thursday of every month, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Free. santamaria Democrats.info. IHOP, 202 Nicholson Ave, Santa Maria.

HI-WAY DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET Come to the Hi-Way Drive-In for the Sunday Swap Meet. Sellers: $20; Produce sellers: $25; Buyers: $2 car load. Sundays, 4-30 a.m. 12-30 p.m. 805-934-1582. Hi-Way Drive In, 3710 Santa Maria Way, Santa Maria.

RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

MAH JONGG Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. 805-922-2993. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

SANTA MARIA COIN CLUB MEETING Coin collectors of all ages welcome. Bring coins for free appraisals. SMCC is a non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating interest in coin collecting for people living in Northern SB County and SLO County. Third Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m. through Aug. 28. 820-825 a year. 805-937-3158.

THE ANDERSON RECREATION CENTER IS YOUR ONE STOP FOR ALL YOUR U.S. PASSPORT PROCESSING NEEDS!

Certified Passport Acceptance Agents are available daily Monday through Friday, 9am to 4:30pm. No appointments necessary! Now also offering passport photo services.
MIND & BODY

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

CANDLELIGHT RESTORATIVE YOGA Release and open your body with breath, props, and meditation. Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free, 805-925-9979. oassorcutt.org, Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

KUNDALINI YOGA Gentle yoga classes with a focus on meditation and chanting in the Kundalini Yoga (as taught by Yogi Bhajan). All levels of experience welcome. Thursdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m. through Dec. 31. $2 per class; $40 for 14 classes, 526-868-4810. branchmillosan.org (Geneveffrey offers). Branch Mill Organic Farm & Retreat Center, 2815 Branch Mill Rd., Arroyo Grande.

WATER EXERCISE FOR ALL AGES Classes help relieve joint pain, enhance your breathing and increase your range of motion. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 a.m. Free. 805-489-6399. 5 Cities Swim School, 452 Traffic Way, Arroyo Grande, Silestesswims.com.

SAN DIEGO SLC COUNTY

GUARDIAN ANGEL SLC COUNTY SLC County is offering a support group for survivors of family violence. The group provides the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. 805-544-2266, oassorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 1304 Pacific St., San Luis Obispo.

AFRICAN DANCE An all levels dance class where you can learn traditional dances from the African and Georgia West Africa. Accompanied by live drumming. Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m. $5-$10. africandancetofreedom.org, Ritsun Broad St., San Luis Obispo, 805-547-1496.

AID YOURSELF A Japanese martial art designed to stop violence with minimum harm. This class takes place July 7. 10 games guaranteed. Free. 805-441-7932. Oceano Community Center, 1425 19th St., Oceano, adult fee $10, seniors $5. 805-547-0994.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

MONDAY ME AND ME CLASS Brief yoga classes for ages 3 to 9 (as soon as they can walk on their own). Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 3:30 to 10:15 a.m. $35 $55. K’its All Star Gymnastics, 237 Main Street, Santa Maria, 805-346-2575.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LA CHAOUTHOMAS SLC COUNTY SLC County is offering a support group for survivors of family violence. The group provides the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. 805-544-2266, oassorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 1304 Pacific St., San Luis Obispo.

MINDFULNESS LET IT BEGIN WITH ME NAR-ANON Let it begin with me. Tuesdays, 9 a.m. 805-928-7799. smvdiscoverymuseum.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClellan St., Santa Maria.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LA CHAOUTHOMAS SLC COUNTY SLC County is offering a support group for survivors of family violence. The group provides the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free. Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. 805-544-2266, oassorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 1304 Pacific St., San Luis Obispo.

AID YOURSELF A Japanese martial art designed to stop violence with minimum harm. This class takes place July 7. 10 games guaranteed. Free. 805-441-7932. Oceano Community Center, 1425 19th St., Oceano, adult fee $10, seniors $5. 805-547-0994.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

REDALOAD The Buellton Library presents RedAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4 p.m. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.
**ZOO TO YOU: LIVE ANIMAL SHOW** This show includes a variety of wildlife and is part of the 2018 Summer Reading Program. **July 17, 2-4:30 p.m.** Free. 805-473-7163. Arroyo Grande Library, 800 W. 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

**CUESTA COLLEGE FOR KIDS** A series of youth classes that integrate group drumming activities. Drums are provided. Through July 25, 8:30-9:30 a.m. **Price varies.** 805-546-3132. Cuesta College Community Programs, Highway 1, San Luis Obispo.

**DRAMA AND IMAGINATIVE PLAY CLASS:** **AGES 5-8** Sing, dance, play games, and create stories and characters. Saturdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. **$120 for 10 weeks.** 805-709-0761. pyjamadrama.com/us. SLO Movement Arts Center, 2074 Parker St., San Luis Obispo.

**KIDS PARTY PARADISE** Kids aged over 4 can enjoy an obstacle course, pizza, dessert, crafts, a movie, and more. No gymnastics experience required. **July 14, 5:30-10:30 p.m.** Starts at **$34.** 805-547-1496. performanceathletics.com. Performance Athletics Gymnastics, 4484 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

**MINIMAKERS SUMMER CAMP WEEK 3:** **MAZES AND MACHINES** Kids can enjoy technical themed activities like logic puzzles, mazes, escape adventures, and more. **July 16-20, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.** $355-$415. minimakers.com/summercamp. SLO Movement Arts Center, 2074 Parker St., San Luis Obispo.

**SUMMER GYMNASIUMS CAMP** Performance Athletics Gymnastics offers camps for kids ages 3 to 13 (toilet trained). Kids can enjoy gymnastics (no experience necessary), games, crafts, outdoor time, and more. Full and half day options available. Through Aug. 10, **8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.** Starts at **$40.** 805-547-1496. performanceathletics.com. Performance Athletics Gymnastics, 4484 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

**ZOO TO YOU ANIMALS** This show features a variety of wildlife. Part of the 2018 Summer Reading Program. All ages welcome. **July 18, 10:30-11:30 a.m.** Free. 805-781-5775. San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

**ZOO TO YOU LIVE ANIMAL SHOW** This show includes a variety of wildlife and is part of the 2018 Summer Reading Program. **July 17, 10:30-11:15 a.m.** Free. 805-781-5775. San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

**MEET THE ARTIST** A special reception for artist Laura Cross’s display at the Terry Dowdy rotunda of the San Luis Obispo County Government Center. **July 19 from 4 to 6 p.m.** Exhibit is part of an ongoing series that showcases local art and artists at the office, which is located at 2605 S. Miller St., San Luis Obispo. **Free.**

**ZOO TO YOU: LIVE ANIMAL SHOW** This show includes a variety of wildlife and is part of the 2018 Summer Reading Program. **July 17, 2-4:30 p.m.** Free. 805-473-7163. Arroyo Grande Library, 800 W. 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

**FOOD & DRINK**

**GUADELupe NATIVE GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION DAY** Seeking volunteers interested in gardening and helping to beautify the Guadalupe Native Garden. This event is led by Judith Evans, Third Saturday of every month, 9 a.m.-noon through Dec. **15.** Free. 805-343-2455. dunescenter.org/event/guadalupe-native-garden-beautification-days/. Guadalupe Native Garden, Corner of Campondonico and 7th Ave., Arroyo Grande.
**Live Music**

**SANTA YNEZ VALLEY**

**AREA 51 LIVE** July 20, 8-11 p.m., Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**CATALINA ESTEVES LIVE** This performance is part of Crafted, Bottlest’s ongoing live music series. July 13, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Bottlest Winery, Bar & Bistro, 35 Industrial Way, Buellton, 805-686-4742, bottlest.com.


**CRATED: LIVE MUSIC SERIES** Features artists from all genres of music. Thursdays, 6 p.m. and Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m. 805-686-4742, bottlest.com. Bottlest Winery, Bar & Bistro, 35 Industrial Way, Buellton.

**THE CROWN CITY BOMBERS LIVE** July 21, 8-11 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**DIFFERENT STRINGS LIVE** This performance is part of Crafted, Bottlest’s ongoing live music series. July 21, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Bottlest Winery, Bar & Bistro, 35 Industrial Way, Buellton, 805-686-4742, bottlest.com.

**THE DYLAN ORTEGA BAND** As part of KRAZY Country Honky-Tonk Thursday, Thursdays, 7 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.


**LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO** Local acts perform every Saturday, Saturdays, 5-8 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**LIVE WIRE LIVE** This local group performs classic rock. July 18 Free. 805-688-0701. Solvang Park, Mission Dr. and First St., Solvang.

**LIVEWIRE LIVE** July 14, 8-11 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**LOGAN HAM LIVE** This performance is part of Crafted, Bottlest’s ongoing live music series. July 10, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Bottlest Winery, Bar & Bistro, 35 Industrial Way, Buellton, 805-686-4742, bottlest.com.

**MIKE SHELTON LIVE** This performance is part of Crafted, Bottlest’s ongoing live music series. July 10, 4-7 p.m. Bottlest Winery, Bar & Bistro, 35 Industrial Way, Buellton, 805-686-4742, bottlest.com.

**MUSIC LISTINGS continued page 25**

---

**Gazebo a go-go**

Local bands bring their sound outside for Summer Concerts at Solvang Park

**BY JOE PAYNE**

Summer Concerts at Solvang Park

Local bands bring their sound outside for Summer Concerts at Solvang Park, and right in the middle of that is a shady gazebo overlooking its sprawling lawn.

For many a local band and musician, like Dan Robinette, drummer for local rock group LiveWire, that’s where the magic happens.

“We like to throw a good party,” Robinette said. “Really anything that has a good, high-energy rock feel to it that will get people out on the dance floor, those are the songs that we like to throw out there.”

LiveWire is set to perform on July 18 as part of the Summer Concerts series that takes place at Solvang Park as part of the Solvang third Wednesdays farmers market event.

Robinette said that LiveWire has performed at the Summer Concerts for several years now. The band often plays clubs where people like to dance, but summertime includes more outdoor concerts. Those shows are more family-friendly, he said.

“We all have families, so we understand going out to see a live band when you have kids can be hard, so we really like to bring the energy to those family events as well,” he said, “so those who have kids can party with us.”

For those who don’t have an open Wednesday night and can’t make it to Solvang Park, there’s also a number of Friday night concerts at the same place and time.

Local classic rock band The Rincons are going to perform on July 13 as part of the series, and like LiveWire, the group has performed at the Summer Concerts before. Original member and rhythm guitarist/vocalist Curtis Lopez said that the majority of the band is from Carpinteria, but they perform in the Santa Ynez Valley all the time.

They play at wineries and popular venues like the Maverick Saloon, often as their country band Dusty Jugz, but The Rincons are known for a classic rock selection that appeals to a wide range of people.

“We kind of look at the crowd, see what’s attracting them, and we kind of base our music on who’s there, the age of the crowd, and try and judge what they’re into and what to play,” Lopez said. “It gets a good crowd. There’s always tourists there, or just locals … .”

“Solvang, it’s a happy place,” he added.

Because of its renown as a tourist destination, Solvang is a great place to perform for a diverse audience, Lopez said. The group performs classic rock covers like the Beach Boys or The Beatles, music that has a wide, often cross-cultural appeal.

“It’s fun because there’s a lot of foreign tourists there,” Lopez said. “You’ll have some Asian tourists there, they don’t speak English, but they know all the words to the songs.”

Tourists and locals alike are welcome to bring a picnic, lawn chairs, or blankets to relax and enjoy the music at Solvang Park, according to the.

**LIVEWIRE LIVE**: Lompoc-based rock band LiveWire is set to jam out at Solvang’s Summer Concerts on July 18, performing favorite high-energy hits from the 1980s through contemporary pop covers.

---

**LOCAL NOTES continued page 25**

---

**NEW Doctor, NEW Patients!**

**SPECIALS!**

**INCLUDES:**
- Exam
- Necessary X-Rays
- Intraoral Pictures
- Basic Cleaning (if needed)
- Consultation

**A $315 Value!**

**$2,200 Special**

(Regular $3,500)

**Includes:**
- Implant
- Abutment
- Crown

**$79**

**DENTAL CARE**

for the whole family!

**GRAND OPENING**

**Grover Beach Dental**

1558 W. Grand Ave, Grover Beach

(805) 474-8100

GroverBeachFamilyDentistry.com

3 Hola Habla Español • Walk-ins Welcome

Open Monday–Fridays, 8am–5pm

---

**SOLVANG'S SUMMER CONCERTS**

**LIVE IN THE PARK**

Solvang’s Summer Concerts is a live music series happening each Wednesday and some Fridays through Aug. 22 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Solvang Park, including a performance by The Rincons on July 13 and LiveWire on July 18. Solvang Park is located at the corner of Mission Drive and First Street in Solvang. More info: solvang3rdwednesday or (805) 588-6144.
**MUSIC**

**LOCAL NOTES** from page 24

Santamaria Fairpark and Visitors Bureau.

The Summer Concerts series also includes a varied lineup of bands. In the case of LiveWire, the group performs faster rock from the 1980s and on into contemporary pop artists. They focus on music that compels people to move their feet, Robinette said.

"Once we get people out dancing, we like to keep compelling people to move their feet," Robinette said. "Usually what happens is we'll bring people up out of the audience and normally what happens is we'll bring people up out of the audience fans looking to hear his music, and may even join in the fun. "We have quite a few locals that come up," Lopez said. "And normally what happens is we'll bring people up out of the audience that like to sing and we have some fun. It's more fun if we can get people to participate." ☺

Managing Editor Joe Payne is bringing a blanket to is we'll bring people up out of the audience fans looking to hear his music, and may even join in the fun. "We have quite a few locals that come up," Lopez said. "And normally what happens is we'll bring people up out of the audience that like to sing and we have some fun. It's more fun if we can get people to participate." ☺

Lots of different groups have, and will, perform at Summer Concerts. The folk/bluegrass/ Americana group Grass Mountain performed on July 11, and upcoming shows include rockabilly bands Cadillac Angels on July 25 and Rock Cats Rock on July 27, with more groups performing through Aug. 22.

The concerts last for a few hours, which is great for visitors who just want to listen between wine tastings and for those who see the music as a main attraction. For Lopez and The Rincons, Summer Concerts often includes a number of longtime fans looking to hear his music, and may even join in the fun.

**SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY**

**6250 LIVE** July 22, 3 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harryspismobeach.com.

**COUGRZZ ROCK LIVE** July 20, 9 p.m. and July 21, 9 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harryspismobeach.com.

**THE EXPERIMENTS LIVE** July 14, 3-7:30 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harryspismobeach.com.

**FESTIVAL MOZAIK NOTABLE ENCOUNTER DINNER: WOMEN IN MUSIC** Enjoy award-winning wines and farm-to-table cuisine at Villa Filaree, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-925-0951 ext.2260. Rotary Centennial Park, 2625 South College Dr., Santa Maria.

**BOAT CRUISE/BOAT PARTY** July 15, 1 p.m. Free. 805-361-2900. moxiecafe.com.


**MUSIC LISTINGS** continued page 26
**MUSIC**

**MUSIC LISTINGS** from page 25

**690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.**


**LEGENDS LIVE July 22.** 9 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar. **690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.**

**OPEN BLUES JAM Wednesdays Mongos Saloon, 359 W. Grand Ave., Grover Beach, 805-489-3639.**

**THE SHANTASTICS LIVE July 17.** 7:30 p.m. and **July 18, 7:30 p.m.** Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, **690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.**

**SOUTH 65 LIVE** July 13, 9 p.m. and **July 14, 9 p.m.** Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, **690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.**

**A SUMMERTIME ENCHANTED EVENING WITH THE PHILHARMONIC PLAYERS** Musicians from the Santa Maria Philharmonic will perform chamber music featuring pieces by Mozart, Beethoven, Manuel de Falla, and others. Featured performers include Maestro Michael Nowak, Mary Beth Woodruff, Hilary Clark, and Lynne Garrett. **July 14,** 7-9 p.m. **$20-30.** 805-925-0412. The Monarch Club at Trilogy Monarch Dunes, 1645 Trilogy Parkway, Nipomo.

**SOUTH SLO COUNTY**

**SONGWRITERS AT PLAY: STEVE DUKEHEART** Special guests include Max McLaury, Sam Burns, Craig Louis Dingman, Lauren Napier, and Cliff Steep. **July 19, 6:30 p.m.** Free. 805-204-6821. songwritersatplay.com/calendar/. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo.


**KRAZY COUNTRY HONKY-TONK THURSDAYS** Thursdays, 6 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**LOMPOC/VANDENBERG**

**THIRSTY THURSDAYS WITH DJ VEGA** Playing today’s and yesterday’s hits. No cover charge. Bring your dancing shoes. **Thursdays, 9 p.m.** 3:20 p.m. Free. 805-478-3980. DJ’s Saloon, 724 E Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

**SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS**

**HULA DANCING** Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-928-7799.

**LINE DANCING** Mondays, 6:30-9 p.m. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-928-7799.

**NIGHTLIFE AT RANCHO BOWL** Enjoy Dj’s 6 nights a week in the Rancho Bar and Lounge. For ages 21 and over. **Tuesdays, 9 p.m.** Free. 805-925-2405, ranchobowl.com/nightlife. Rancho Bowl, 128 E Donovan Rd., Santa Maria.

**KARAOKE/OPEN MIC**

**SANTA YNEZ VALLEY**


**SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY**

**FRONT ROW KARAOKE** Thursdays, 9 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.

**JWAZ KARAOKE** Thursdays, 9 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.

**KARAOKE WITH DJ SAM** Sundays Mongos Saloon, 359 W. Grand Ave., Grover Beach, 805-489-3639.

**KARAOKE NIGHT AT BUFFALO PUB AND GRILL** Sundays, 7-11 p.m. Buffalo Pub And Grill, 717 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT AT KRAZY KEN** Sundays, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-544-5155. Mavericks Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT AT KARAOKE NIGHTS** Thursdays, 9 p.m. Harry’s Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harrys溧ismpobeach.com.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT AT KRAZY KEN** Sundays, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-544-5155. Mavericks Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT AT THE PHILHARMONIC** Thursdays, 9 p.m. The Philharmonic Players, 728 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo.

**ST_FAILED**
An evening of art

VTC artists pull big crowds as they hold their annual art show in Orcutt

BY REBECCA ROSE

Rebecca* is eager to show visitors at CORE Winery in Orcutt her works of art.

Two of her pieces hang on the walls of the tasting room, which at the moment is crowded to near capacity. As she gets word that one of her paintings has sold, she reacts with joy and shock.

"I've sold two pictures tonight," she says, pointing to the wall. "I really love it. I can’t believe it. I’m really happy about it." Rebecca’s work was part of the annual sART Art Show, featuring artists from Vocational Training Center (VTC). The center offers a free monthly art class for adults with developmental disabilities spearheaded by the Ian M. Hassett Foundation available September through May.

At the opening reception on June 30 at CORE, Rebecca and other participants in the program celebrated with friends and family and watched as attendees snapped up their artwork. In an interview with the Santa Maria Sun, Rebecca, who participated in the art program in 2017, talked about why the art classes are so important to her.

"I like working with groups," she explained. "I like it because they work with me."

She was especially excited about selling a painting of a hand, which was her favorite of the artwork she submitted. Rebecca said she got the idea for her paintings by watching another artist in the class demonstrate how to do the technique. "They talked about it," she said. "She showed us a picture and she said, ‘Let’s do it this way.’ And I did it."

Tori had two paintings and a cereal bowl she made from clay in the show. As she wound her way through the large crowd inside CORE, it was hard for her to get a moment alone. Tori was greeted by friends and well-wishers, all of them eager to congratulate her on her work. At the VTC art classes, one of the aims is to introduce new materials and methods to the artists as they continue from year to year. This was the first time many of the students such as Tori had used clay.

"I made it from the clay," Tori said. "It was hard. It was a block of clay and it was not easy, pounding it."

In addition to the clay bowl, she also created a painting with a collage of a flower made from tissue paper. While she was happy her work sold, Tori said it was also a little hard to part with her art. "It’s different," she said. "I made it from the clay," Tori said. "It was hard. It was a block of clay and it was not easy, pounding it."

Community art show

The artists of VTC annual sART Art Show continues at CORE Winery through July 31. CORE is located at 105 W. Clark Ave., Orcutt. More info: (805) 937-1600.

Jason, who plans to attend the program next year, said the classes calm him down and give him more focus. He said he wants to learn how to do different kinds of art and styles next year.

Stefanie Hassett, the Hassett Foundation's finance director, said she was proud of the artists' growth in their confidence.

Only a few of the artists from the previous class expressed an interest in selling their art last year, she said. This year, however, almost all of them wanted to put their work up for sale. Many of the artists who returned to the program are also evolving in their skills and interests, expressing a desire to learn more and do more.

"We’re doing something right," Hassett said. "It’s working. The time we’re putting into going over different mediums and techniques and artists is working. It’s sinking in." Rebecca and Tori said that while it was sometimes hard to learn the new skills, once they practiced for a while, it got easier. Tori was eager to learn more next year, and Rebecca was focused on selling more of her artwork.

As for the huge turnout, Hassett said she was shocked to see the big crowd at the reception, which included local dignitaries such as 4th District County Supervisor Peter Adam.

"I’m so glad that people are excited about the program," Hassett said. "They see the good that it’s doing and reaching out to this aspect of our community that sometimes gets forgotten." ☑

* Last names have been withheld to maintain participants' privacy.

Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose also likes throwing things she works with. Contact her at rrose@santamariasun.com.
Local children’s book explores a higher power and twin flames

BY DELANY BURK

Creation, reincarnation, and twin flames are all the makings of a great exploration of religion, life, and true love—or a children’s book, if you think like San Luis Obispo-based Rebecca Velasquez and her 8-year-old son, Wesley, who co-produced a story on these very topics that came out in May. Rebecca and Wesley sat down with the Sun to talk about their first book, Sol Finds Love: A Sacred Love Story for Children, a picture book that delves into ideas such as friendship, deep emotional connections, nature, being truthful, finding one’s own truth, and overcoming loss.

Sun: What was the process of writing a book together like?

Rebecca Velasquez: Sol Finds Love is actually part of a series. I basically started writing the third book, Sunshine and His Sack of Snakes, after doing a self-expression and leadership course, and I was just really inspired. I had never done any writing at all, but I had the inspiration at like 3 in the morning. I had some characters in mind and started writing, and I decided to take characters from that story, Sol and Moon, and I backtracked and told their story, and that’s how Sol Finds Love came about. We wrote the story right before we moved to California. I had lived in Connecticut for my entire life apart from college so it was just a time of questioning everything, and learning to align with my own soul. The character of Sol is really on a journey of aligning with her soul, speaking her truth in the face of fear, and that really mirrored my process, and our family’s process, of questioning where do we want to live, and re-evaluating and re-seeing the soul connections in my own life, and leaving a place I had lived my entire life. Wesley said, “I want to be in the newspaper,” right when we started writing, and I said, “OK, great.” I had read so many stories to him growing up, and I thought it would be awesome for him to go through the process, to see how a book is actually written, illustrated, and published. So his involvement was that I would read him both the stories, and he did more critiquing around illustrations with the professional illustrator, Mark Allen of Creative Anomaly. In one, when Sol was crying, there was a puddle of tears and he said, “Mom, that looks like pee so I don’t want to have a puddle of tears.” So we took that out.

Sun: Wesley, what was the process of working on the book with your mom like?

Wesley Velasquez: It was fun, and so exciting. I was like, “Oh my gosh! We’re doing a book!” I don’t even remember when this started.

Sun: How did you come up with the story? Was there a specific creation story you were basing it off of?

RV: There are just a lot of themes in the story, a soul connection is a huge one. It was a period of time for me of reassessing soul connections, aligning with my own soul, and speaking my truth just in life. The topic of twin flames is also a topic in the book, and that’s a really rare phenomenon that I really wanted to bring to light. A lot of people don’t understand that connection, there’s a really small population who have experienced it, and so it brings that topic to light.

Sun: What does the idea of twin flames mean to you?

RV: I’ve really found that people Wesley’s age do get it, and what they get from it might be different than what an adult gets from it. Children his age read it and understand that there are some sad parts, and there are reflection questions in the back so they get that opportunity to go reflect on the story, and see that in the story, this character experienced a loss, but a good thing came out of it. They learned to turn to a higher power and learned to find love in their own heart.

Sun: What is the book almost a higher reading level.

RV: I think as time goes on in our society, people will start to hear those words more and more often, and it’s also known as twin souls. There’s a lot on the internet if people Google “twin flames,” and a lot of people confuse twin flames with soulmates. There are soulmates, twin flames, and kindred spirits, and I put in the book a description of what those characteristics are, and it’s the sort of connection, where for a lot of people it can happen and they won’t know what it is. It’s an experience that lives outside of any other human experience. People may not have a name for it, and hopefully this book can bring an understanding of that, and what it is, for people who experience it now or in the future. It’s just to engage people about the idea.

Delany Burk is an editorial intern at the Sun’s sister paper, New Times. Send comments to mail@santamariasun.com.

Read on: Rebecca and Wesley Velasquez’s book, Sol Finds Love: A Sacred Love Story for Children is available now in paperback on Amazon for $11.13. For more information, visit rebeccavelasquez.com.
Summer buzz

Peyton Reed (Bring It On, Yes Man, Ant-Man) directs this next entry into the Marvel universe set after the events of Captain America: Civil War. Paul Rudd returns as Scott Lang, and his superhero alter ego Ant-Man. As Scott struggles to balance his crime-fighting and home life, he's once again called on by Dr. Hank Pym (Michael Douglas) to join forces with Scott's one-time love interest (and Pym's daughter) Hope Van Dyne/The Wasp (Evangeline Lilly) to deal with a new threat, Ghost (Hannah John-Kamen). (118 min.)

Glen: Chalk this film up as another serviceable action comedy with enough derring-do and laughs to make a trip to the theater worthwhile. As a character, Ant-Man is certainly a lot more fun than dour Batman or goody-two-shoes Superman—he’s fallible, irreverent, and generally loveable, in part because he’s trying so hard to be a good dad to Cassie (Aby Ryder Fortson). The running gag is Scott is under house arrest for two years because he joined Captain America to save the world in Germany, breaking international accords. Superheroes may have the day, but they leave a wake of destruction, too, and Scott must remain housebound with an ankle bracelet, under the watchful eye of FBI Agent Jimmy Woo (Randall Park, at his deadpan funniest). Woo is always one step behind Scott, and his bits are even funnier than the three hapless thieves-turned-security-experts—Luis (Michael Peña), Dave (Tip “T.I.” Harris), and Kurt (David Dastmalchian)—who tried to rob Dr. Peña and Pym’s ex-partner Dr. Bill Foster (Laurence Fishburne), Dave (Tip “T.I.” Harris), and Kurt (David Dastmalchian)—who tried to rob Dr. Peña and Pym’s ex-partner Dr. Bill Foster (Laurence Fishburne), who appears to have a hidden agenda. Though he seems like a lot to keep track of, the plot is clearly delineated, the action sequences are trackable and exciting, and the one-liners come fast and furious. It’s not going to win any awards, but for summer fun, it does the trick.

Anna: I prefer superhero flicks that lean on humor as opposed to taking themselves too seriously, and the Ant-Man films fall squarely in that category. Funky dude Rudd is not what first comes to mind when casting the hunky, brooding figure behind most caped crusaders, but I for one am grateful for the change-up in action hero image. These stories are supposed to be fun after all! While this sequel didn’t wow me as much as its predecessor, it still was a followable storyline that stayed true to its quirky, sassy self. The story starts with Scott doing anything and everything to keep Cassie entertained over the few remaining days of his house arrest. When the games get a little rough and Scott’s ankle winds up through a fence, FBI agent Woo is knocking down his door and he can’t help but say “Gotha!!” in the final stretch of Scott’s two-year sentence. Park is great as determined agent Woo, who’s hell-bent on capturing Scott up to his old tricks. While Ant-Man and The Wasp leaves a pretty forgettable mark on the film world in general, it’s a bunch of rollicking fun and adventure perfect for an afternoon in the theater when you’re looking to beat the heat.

Glen: Rudd is particularly suited to the character. He’s sort of a hangdog everyman, but he’s also funny, charming, and good looking enough to be a credible love interest to Hope. Yes, he seems to screw things up over and over again, but his heart’s in the right place. Lilly as Hope is much more competent and The Wasp disarm a Soviet nuclear missile pretty quickly, sassy self. The story starts with Scott doing anything and everything to keep Cassie entertained over the few remaining days of his house arrest. When the games get a little rough and Scott’s ankle winds up through a fence, FBI agent Woo is knocking down his door and he can’t help but say “Gotha!!” in the final stretch of Scott’s two-year sentence. Park is great as determined agent Woo, who’s hell-bent on capturing Scott up to his old tricks. While Ant-Man and The Wasp leaves a pretty forgettable mark on the film world in general, it’s a bunch of rollicking fun and adventure perfect for an afternoon in the theater when you’re looking to beat the heat.

Glen: Rudd is particularly suited to the character. He’s sort of a hangdog everyman, but he’s also funny, charming, and good looking enough to be a credible love interest to Hope. Yes, he seems to screw things up over and over again, but his heart’s in the right place. Lilly as Hope is much more competent and The Wasp disarm a Soviet nuclear missile pretty quickly, sassy self. The story starts with Scott doing anything and everything to keep Cassie entertained over the few remaining days of his house arrest. When the games get a little rough and Scott’s ankle winds up through a fence, FBI agent Woo is knocking down his door and he can’t help but say “Gotha!!” in the final stretch of Scott’s two-year sentence. Park is great as determined agent Woo, who’s hell-bent on capturing Scott up to his old tricks. While Ant-Man and The Wasp leaves a pretty forgettable mark on the film world in general, it’s a bunch of rollicking fun and adventure perfect for an afternoon in the theater when you’re looking to beat the heat.

Anna: I prefer superhero flicks that lean on humor as opposed to taking themselves too seriously, and the Ant-Man films fall squarely in that category. Funky dude Rudd is not what first comes to mind when casting the hunky, brooding figure behind most caped crusaders, but I for one am grateful for the change-up in action hero image. These stories are supposed to be fun after all! While this sequel didn’t wow me as much as its predecessor, it still was a followable storyline that stayed true to its quirky, sassy self. The story starts with Scott doing anything and everything to keep Cassie entertained over the few remaining days of his house arrest. When the games get a little rough and Scott’s ankle winds up through a fence, FBI agent Woo is knocking down his door and he can’t help but say “Gotha!!” in the final stretch of Scott’s two-year sentence. Park is great as determined agent Woo, who’s hell-bent on capturing Scott up to his old tricks. While Ant-Man and The Wasp leaves a pretty forgettable mark on the film world in general, it’s a bunch of rollicking fun and adventure perfect for an afternoon in the theater when you’re looking to beat the heat.
film

JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM
What’s it rated? PG-13
Where’s it showing? Movies Lompoc

Pick:

J.A. Bayona (The Orphanage, The Impossible, A
Dramatic, action-packed dinosaur adventure, Fallen Kingdom continues the saga of the world’s most famous dinosaur. It’s a story of survival and family, as the characters must face their fears and work together to save the creatures they love. The special effects are incredible, making the dinosaurs look more realistic than ever before. The performances are also strong, with Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard delivering standout roles. Overall, the film is a thrill ride from start to finish. (118 min.) —Spencer Cole

THE FIRST PURGE
What’s it rated? B
Where’s it showing? Parks Plaza, Hi-Way Drive-In

Behind every tradition lies a revolution. Next Independence Day, witness the rise of our country’s 12 hours of annual lawlessness. Behind every tradition lies a revolution. Next Independence Day, the action begins when a sociological theory that vents aggression for one night in one isolated community. But when the violence of oppressors meets the rage of the marginalized, the civil war that erupts will expand from the trial-city borders and spread across the nation. (112 min.) —Universal Pictures

STARGATE
What’s it rated? PG-13
When: 1994
Where it’s showing: Streaming on Hulu

The first film in the Stargate series was released in 1994, and it immediately became a classic. The film follows a special operation into the Stargate, a portal that leads to other worlds. The story is full of action, adventure, and mystery, and the special effects are still impressive today. The performances are strong, with a cast that includes Kurt Russell, James Spader, and Richard Dean Anderson. Overall, Stargate is a must-see film for anyone who loves science fiction. (112 min.) —Karen Garcia

FILM REVIEWS from page 29
rubber). I also wanted to take a minute to commend Bird’s choice to leave cell phones out of the picture, allowing his film to flex its muscles without pocket-sized distractions. It truly speaks to the traditionalist bent of the series, which seems to draw from 1950s era super hero shows and comics, as much as even earlier, “Golden Age” science fiction classics. Bird gives audiences a glimpse of how his generation and those before him viewed the future, and while those dreams may be dated, they still come across as new, exciting, and utterly unique, and that’s pretty incredible. (118 min.) —Glen Stavely

SKYSCRAPER
What’s it rated? PG-14
Where’s it showing? Hi-Way Drive In, Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza

Dwayne Johnson leads the cast of SkyScraper as a former FBI Hostage Rescue Team leader and U.S. war veteran Will Ford, who now assesses security for skyscrapers. On assignment in China he finds the tallest, safest building in the world suddenly ablaze, and he’s been framed for it. A dedicated man on the run, Will must find those responsible, clear his name, and somehow rescue his family who is trapped inside. (128 min.) —Glen Stavely

INTERSTELLAR TRAVELS: Minus the corny effects and A-list actor lineup, Stargate dips into an Egypt-like world after cracking the code of an ancient gateway.

INTERSTELLAR TRAVELS: Minus the corny effects and A-list actor lineup, Stargate dips into an Egypt-like world after cracking the code of an ancient gateway.

INTERSTELLAR TRAVELS: Minus the corny effects and A-list actor lineup, Stargate dips into an Egypt-like world after cracking the code of an ancient gateway. —Karen Garcia

INTERSTELLAR TRAVELS: Minus the corny effects and A-list actor lineup, Stargate dips into an Egypt-like world after cracking the code of an ancient gateway.
I will openly and shamelessly admit my Instant Pot spent six months on my kitchen counter before I would even touch it because I was terrified it would explode all over my kitchen. I must have Googled “pressure cooker explosion bomb” so many times, the FBI probably has me on a list called “People Who Aren’t Terrorists, Just Idiots Who Are Afraid of Kitchen Appliances.” Finally, after much cajoling and begging from my fiancé, I let go of my irrational fears and made one of the best pot roast meals I have ever had in my life.

If you’re not familiar, the Instant Pot is a combination electric pressure cooker and slow cooker (it’s actually marketed as a seven-in-one device also featuring a rice cooker, steamer, sauté pan, yogurt maker, and warmer). Electric pressure cookers are nothing new, but Instant Pot (who I promise is not paying me for this) simplifies the process with a digital display and a really easy-to-use device. There are a variety of models with different sizes (mine is the Instant Pot DUO60 6 Quart), whether you’re cooking for one or a big family.

I’m not good with recipes, so if you’re looking for something with exact specifications of ingredient amounts, I’m here to disappoint you. I learned to cook from my mother who literally did not own measuring spoons or cups and just cooked by eyeballing everything and tasting as she went.

I started with a 3 to 4 pound chuck roast. Chuck, which comes from the shoulder of the steer, is a tasty cut of meat but is extremely tough and should be cooked for a long time. This is an excellent time to mention that all meats are best when cooked low and slow. Roasting or braising meats at a very low temperature for a very long time yields the best results. The longer you can cook tough cuts of meat such as chuck, the better your meal will turn out.

I next prepped about four carrots in 2-inch rough cuts, chopped three potatoes into a large rough dice, and cut two celery stalks to match the carrots. I seasoned them with salt and pepper and put them to the side. I also chopped one onion, crushed two cloves of garlic, and rough chopped some fresh Italian parsley (which you can save for the very end just before serving the meal).

Before putting your meat in a pot to roast, it’s extremely important to sear it. Searing locks in flavor by creating a caramelized crust on the surface of the meat. It’s easy to do, and in an Instant Pot, searing can be done in the same pot the meat pressure cooks in.

I used a special blend of my own creation: 2 teaspoons pepper, 1 1/2 teaspoons salt, 1 1/2 teaspoons Old Bay seasoning, 1 teaspoon Herbes de Provence, 1 teaspoon dried onion powder, 1 teaspoon garlic powder, and 1 teaspoon dried parsley. Then I put my meat in the pressure cooker and bLast with the pressure and heat.

This method works perfectly for pot roast. The meat is tender, the vegetables are cooked to perfection, and the entire meal is ready in less than an hour. It’s a great way to get slow cooked foods in a fraction of the time. A basic pot roast with carrots and potatoes is a perfect dish to begin with.


**EATS continued page 32**
BE A PART OF OUR LARGEST PUBLICATION OF THE YEAR

This publication is the Sun’s largest of the year; highly-regarded, and given tremendous exposure throughout the Central Coast and beyond.

Let your marketing celebrate with the best, the victors, those who triumphed in the ultimate battle of the “best of the best” in the 18th Annual Best of Northern Santa Barbara County Readers Poll.

This special publication will be stitched-and-trimmed, making it a magazine-style keepsake.

Contact your sales rep for more info today!
805.347.1968 or advertising@SantaMariaSun.com

PUBLICATION DATE 8/2/18 • BOOK YOUR AD BY 7/26/18

EATS

EATS from page 31
teaspoon dried marjoram.
Mix the seasoning thoroughly and pour about half onto an empty plate. Spread it around and then lay your roast (which should be very dry; this is the only way meat properly sears) on top of the spice mix. Rub the remaining spices on the top and sides because you’re going to sear all of it, and make sure you completely coat the meat in the mix.

Now to the fun part. With a device like the Instant Pot, you have an option to sauté, which means you can sear the meat and brown your vegetables all in the same pot (this is exciting for cooking nerds). Set the sauté setting to high and add enough olive oil to coat the bottom. The meat should sizzle as it hits the pan. You’ll know it’s been enough time (about two to three minutes on each side) when your meat no longer sticks to the bottom of the pan. Turn the meat to the top and bottom, and using a good pair of tongs, sear the the remaining sides. Now you have a good crust with lots of flavor, ready to cook for a long time.

The bottom of the pot is going to look black and gross, but don’t worry? That’s actually the best part. Before adding the onions, deglaze the pan (I used a little bit of butter) and scrape up all the brown bits. Then add the onions, which should get a nice coat of all those yummy bits. Then add the crushed garlic and about 1/2 cup of Worcestershire sauce.

Place your meat on the trivet that comes with the Instant Pot (if you don’t have one, it’s fine. Just place the meat directly on the onions). This will help you lift the meat out at the end. Next add 2 cups of beef broth and 1 cup of dry red wine. Don’t skimp on the wine, either. It makes a difference in the end result. It should be a wine you like to drink (a good pinot noir works best), and don’t use cooking wine because it will just taste weird.

From here, make sure you’ve studied the directions and familiarize yourself with how to use the device (I watched about 3,000 YouTube videos) so you know how to set the pot to pressureize and depressurize. I would avoid using the presets for “meat” and other ingredients and just stick to the manual setting.

With a traditional slow cooker or braised pot roast, you would let the meat cook for some time before adding the vegetables and potatoes (which would turn to mush if you cooked them for the entire time with the meat). This was a bit tricky to navigate the first time in the pressure cooker, and it takes some experimentation to know when to add the vegetables. I tried 45 minutes with the roast (this was way too short of a time; the meat needs to cook long enough so that it literally falls apart on your fork) and then added the vegetables, cooking for another 20 minutes.

While they were delicious and soaked with flavor, the carrots and potatoes were way too soft because they had cooked too long. So the meat was a little tough and the vegetables and potatoes were a little soft. The solution: Adjust cooking times. My recommendation is to cook the meat for 80 to 90 minutes, then drop the potatoes and carrots in for about eight to 10 minutes. Tent the meat in aluminum foil (it’s always good to let the meat rest about five to 10 minutes before cutting into anyway).

That’s pretty much it. Once you take the vegetables and meat out, you can reduce the remaining juices by returning to the sauté setting. Once the sauce reduces, run it through a fine sieve (I use a chinois for this) or leave it unstrained. Finally, add some fresh chopped herbs, such as parsley, for color and a pop of freshness.

Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose is always under pressure. Contact her at rrose@santamariasun.com.

Rebeccamendations: What’s new, what’s fun, and what to try

• When journalists tell you to try something at a restaurant you can count on two things: It’s going to be delicious and cheap. A fellow journalist who works with me strongly recommends Jaffia Café’s garlic pita. For a mere $2.99, I agree; it’s a must-try. Get your cheap eats on at 2530 S. Broadway, Santa Maria.

• Adelina’s has Sunday suppers from 5 to 9 p.m., featuring a three-course meal for $25 a person. On July 14, in celebration of Bastille Day, they are offering Angus colette steak, truffled pomme fries (pictured) and sauce béarnaise, with a vanilla bean crème brûlée for dessert. Visit them at 1645 Trilogy Parkway, Nipomo.

• Why count calories when you could count how many licks it takes to finish a cone of Saturdays Cereal from Nite Creamery? Made with Cap’n Crunch Ice Cream and topped with Frosted Flakes cereal, it’s available at 2003 S. Miller St., Santa Maria.

• When journalists tell you to try something at a restaurant you can count on two things: It’s going to be delicious and cheap. A fellow journalist who works with me strongly recommends Jaffia Café’s garlic pita. For a mere $2.99, I agree; it’s a must-try. Get your cheap eats on at 2530 S. Broadway, Santa Maria.

• Adelina’s has Sunday suppers from 5 to 9 p.m., featuring a three-course meal for $25 a person. On July 14, in celebration of Bastille Day, they are offering Angus colette steak, truffled pomme fries (pictured) and sauce béarnaise, with a vanilla bean crème brûlée for dessert. Visit them at 1645 Trilogy Parkway, Nipomo.

• Why count calories when you could count how many licks it takes to finish a cone of Saturdays Cereal from Nite Creamery? Made with Cap’n Crunch Ice Cream and topped with Frosted Flakes cereal, it’s available at 2003 S. Miller St., Santa Maria.

• When journalists tell you to try something at a restaurant you can count on two things: It’s going to be delicious and cheap. A fellow journalist who works with me strongly recommends Jaffia Café’s garlic pita. For a mere $2.99, I agree; it’s a must-try. Get your cheap eats on at 2530 S. Broadway, Santa Maria.

• Adelina’s has Sunday suppers from 5 to 9 p.m., featuring a three-course meal for $25 a person. On July 14, in celebration of Bastille Day, they are offering Angus colette steak, truffled pomme fries (pictured) and sauce béarnaise, with a vanilla bean crème brûlée for dessert. Visit them at 1645 Trilogy Parkway, Nipomo.
FOR SALE

929 Donner Court, Santa Maria

Desirable Sculpture estates upscale development with no HOA. This home features 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths, Formal Living Room & Family Room, Formal Dining Room, Low maintenance front and backyards, RV Parking. Oversized 2 Car Garage with plenty of built-in storage cabinets, Cul-De-Sac Location, Close to Pioneer Valley High School $470,000

423 N. Benwiley Avenue, Santa Maria

Unique Northwest, 3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Located close to schools and a market. Large lot, garage needs TLC. Listing Price $267,000

365 Mads Place, Nipomo

Quiet cul-de-sac, built in 2018, beautiful w/2 mstr bdms (1 d/s & 1 u/s), appx 228SF, kit w/white W/D, balcony w/strg, 1car allg pkg, trash pd, pool privs inc, no pets.$1350 835 E. Cypress – 2 + 1.5, spacious 2stry townhm, kitch w/lots of cabnts, gas cooktop, pntry, lndry rm w/w/d, bright and open w/vaulted celing, F/P, lrg slider to balcony, all wd flng, one level on second flr w/3 balconies, 1car grg, L/R is in unique Walnut Village, easy access to VAFB, Santa Barbara, walking dist to downtown Lompoc, 2 F/R, D/R, kit w/stainless steel appls, dogs allowed.

$1400 209 Village Circle – 2 + 2, Gated 1story hm w/unique flgrn, one level on second flr w/3 balconies, 1car grg, L/R is bright and open w/valted ceilings, F/P, lg slider to balcony, kit w/lot of cntrts, gas cooktop, pntr, ldry rm w/w/d, pool access, no pets.

$1500 148 Orcutt View Road – 3 + 3, Old Orcutt 1story condn w/vaulted ceilings, kit w/oknok and access to sm yd, mstr ste, 1car att grg, w/d w/dkps, no pets.

$1569 3420 Santa Maria Way #207C – 2 + 1.5, Quail Muds u/s condn w/easy 101 Freeway access, open kit/room has wflrs, kit w/strg, 1car allg pkg, trash pd, pool privs inc, no pets.

507 E. Tunnell Street – 2 + 2, Regency Estates 1story hm in gated community w/2 mstr bdms & patio access, lg kit opens to L/R, F/P, fridge, 2car grg, Idry rm y/w/d, garden with center island, opens to D/R, Idry rm w/w/d incl, backyard well maintained, pool, tennis courts, play ground access, no pets. $1900 309 Dove Lane – 4 + 2, Beautiful unique hm in Walnut Village, easy access to VAFB, Santa Barbara, walking dist to downtown Lompoc, 2 F/R, D/R, kit w/stainless steel appls, dogs allowed.

$2000 1223 Riverside Drive – 2 + 2, 1story in NE, L/R w/F/P, D/R exits to covered patio, all appc incl ding fridge, u/s has all 3 bdms inc spacious mst ste attc to mst ba, big attached grg w/open, close to schools & shopping.

$2000 4195 Arcturus Avenue – 2 + 1.5, Spacious 2story townhm, lots of storage, F/P in L/R, w/ gar in unit, sm enclosed yd, gd, wtr paid.

33

33

pg 33

COLOR

www.santamariasun.com

CLASSIFIEDS.SANTAMARIASUN.COM

KEEP IT CLASSY–FOR FREE!

If you’re a private party, run free classified ads for Sales & Auto/Boat sections online & in print!

Check us out online at CLASSIFIEDS.SANTAMARIASUN.COM

WE WANT YOUR BUSINESS TO BE FEATURED! CALL (805) 347-1968

REACHING 167,000 READERS FROM PASO ROBLES TO LOMPOC WEEKLY

YOUR HOME LOAN SOURCE

FHA | VA | CONVENTIONAL | DOWNT PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS | JUMBO HOME LOANS | EXCEPTIONAL CUSTOMER SERVICE AND MORE!

Patrick Chandler
Sales Manager | NMLS ID 632885
Office 805.361.7202
Mobile 805.588.2767
pchandler@loanDepot.com
www.loanDepot.com/pchandler

Kate Ferguson
Loan Consultant | NMLS ID 328481
Office 805.361.7203
Mobile 805.331.6204
kferguson@loanDepot.com
www.loanDepot.com/kferguson

Bonnie Mogan
Sr. Loan Consultant | NMLS ID 633247
Office 805.234.6561
Mobile 805.361.7204
bmogan@loanDepot.com
www.loanDepot.com/bmogan

Maura Estrada
Sr Loan Consultant | NMLS ID 633243
Office 805.361.7295
Mobile 805.310.3157
Mestradat@loanDepot.com
www.loanDepot.com/mestradat

www.santamariasun.com • July 12 – July 19, 2016 • Sun • 33
LOMPOC LISTINGS

1015 Tranquilllion Court, Lompoc, CA 93436
$445,000 • www.1015Tranquillion.info
Beautiful Brier Creek Cul De Sac Lompoc CA Home Built New in 2012. 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 2175 SF Interior w/Bedroom & Full Bath downstairs, Open Concept Living Space w/ Chef's Kitchen, Island w/ Breakfast Bar, Granite Slab Counters, Recessed Lighting & Stainless Steel Appliances. Master Suite w/Walk in Closet, Dual Vanities, Separate Shower, Tub & Water Closet. Low HOA Fees of $162 a Month.

317 S. K Street, Lompoc, CA 93436
$319,900 • www.317SouthK.info
Southside Lompoc Charmer For Sale. Curb Appeal Galore w/ Beautifully Landscaped Front Yard & Covered Porch Ready for a Rocking Chair & Glass of Lemonade. Potential Plus w/ this Ranch Home on a Deep 970 SF Lot w/ Alley Access & Detached 2 Car Garage. Built in 1947 w/2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath and 1128 SF Interior. Freshly Painted Back Patio Ready For Your Summer BBQ.

NEW LISTING

RARE TEPUSQUET CANYON

Property with 3 homes! Possibilities galore! Three adorable homes on 60 oak-studded acres with beautiful, serene surroundings. Could be the perfect setup for a family compound or live in one and rent out the other two. All units were built by owner and have been lovingly and very well maintained. Two 2 bedroom/1 bathroom units and one 3 bedroom/2 bathroom unit. All have indoor laundry, living room, dining area and individual storage sheds to match each house. A must see! Make an appointment to view this unique property today! (TE302) $699,900

TRADITIONS @ BRADLEY SQUARE

2415 Bowles Lane, Santa Maria, CA 93455
$315,000 • www.2415Bowles.info

4869 S. Bradley Ste. 102, Orcutt • (805) 922-0660
See all our listings at www.WhyUSAProperties.net

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday 12-3pm, 310 McCoy #111

Highly desirable Condo without a neighbor directly above. 3 bedroom, 2 bath in Oak Creek Villas. Patio area and is located close to the pool. (MC310) $291,000

GORGEOUS GARDEN

925 S. McClelland Street Santa Maria, CA 93454
$550,000 • www.925McClelland.info
Old World Charm Meets a Modern Interior in Santa Maria's Historic Carriage District. Victorian Inspired Custom Home Built in 1984 w/4 Beds, 3 Baths, 2906 SF & 8712 SF Lot. Sold by Original Owner w/a Gracious Front Porch & Swing. Living Room w/Brick Fireplace, Sitting Room w/Plantation Shutters & Window Seat, Formal Dining Room w/Antique Style Chandelier, Bedroom & Full Bath w/Shower Downstairs, Kitchen w/Porcelain Lt Island, Breakfast Area & Pantry, Cozy Family Room w/French Doors to Brick Patio.

NEW PRICE

210 E. Morrison Ave. Santa Maria, CA 93454
$540,000 • www.201Morrison.info
Carriage District Property Built in 1929 with all the Classic Touches. You Will Love the Modern Conveniences. You Desire. 2748 SF, 4 Beds, 3.5 Baths PLUS an Attached Apartment (396 SF) w/Separate Entrance, Bedroom, Kitchen & Bath. Master Bedroom Downstairs along w/ a Fully Renovated Kitchen w/Updated Cabinetry, Granite Countertops & Stainless Steel Appliances. Residents of the Carriage District Enjoy Tree-Lined Street Illuminated by Old-Fashioned Street Lamps & a Convenient Downtown Location.

HARVEST GLEN

1992 Wilma Way Santa Maria, CA 93458
$475,000 • www.1992Wilma.info
Harvest Glen Beauty Built in 2015 for Sale! Corner Lot w/ Plenty of Outdoor Living Space; Two fenced Concrete Patios & an Entry Covered Porch. 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, 2416 SF Interior w/an Open Floor Plan, Plank Style Tile Flooring, Kitchen Dark Cabinetry, Island & Breakfast Bar, Recessed Lighting. Granite Countertops & Stainless Steel Appliances. Downstairs Bedroom w/Walk-In Closet & Full Bath w/Shower. Walking Distance to newly Built Jimenez Elementary School. 9 Ft Ceilings, Tankless Water Heater & No HOA Fees.

Sandra Cervantes
Realtor®
(805) 310-3161
sandra@mintprop.com
License #01183014

Jamie LeBlanc
Realtor®
(805) 621-3101
jim@mintprop.com
License #00872830

Jim Holland
Realtor®
(805) 878-0696
jim@mintprop.com
License #01113014

*Information deemed reliable but not verified or guaranteed by Broker. School district boundaries are subject to change.

See all our listings at www.WhyUSAProperties.net
NEW LABORERS IS LOOKING!

Starting at $343,985
202 Fuentes Dr.

LABORERS IS LOOKING
Clete & Bonnie Doyal
www.317SouthK.info
317 S. K Street,
(805) 343-6000

COAST MOVERS &
LOUIE'S CENTRAL

CENTRAL COAST

FOR WORK with this ad!

7-stage mobile headight restoration that comes to you

Phiex’s Automotive Detailing
(805) 478-3299

FOR RENEWAL
$65
FOR NEW PATIENTS
$75

DENTISTRY
Rodney Childress, D.D.S., M.D.
Complete Dentistry for Adults & Children

NEW PATIENT SPECIAL: FREE CLEANING
(805) 922-4352
308 N. McClelland • Santa Maria

ACUPRESSURE
$39 One Hour Massage
Chinese Acupressure
Foot & Body Massage
Ocean Acupressure
(805) 322-8223

MISCELLANEOUS
CLONES AND PLANTS
SANLUISOBISPOCLONING.COM

***NOTICE***
Keep Your Medical Card
GO GREEN
NEW
MARIJUANA
EVALUATIONS
with local licensed physician
David G. Bailey, MD (30 years experience)
Returning patients can now renew by phone:
Call today!

Central Coast Medical

New: $85 • Renewal: $70
(Price of Renewal is the same no matter how long expired, no matter if another doctor originally recommended)
Includes 3 laminated recommendations
2 letter size 1 wallet size

805-484-1181
agpotdoc.com
M-F 10am-2pm and 3-5pm
Walk-In Welcome
405 East Branch St, Ste. 100
Arroyo Grande
(in the Village, easy parking)

PARKING

*Bring in this coupon and receive discounts

SLO CLONING
805-439-4106
SANLUISOBISCOCLONING.COM

PREMIUM CANNABIS
CLONES AND PLANTS
OF ALL SIZES

Quality FLOWERS*
FREE Delivery • Veterans Discount
FREE Goodie Bag • 4 Gram 1/8’s
BEST Edibles • Variety of Concentrates
*SPECIAL: Sun–Tues, Buy 2 Get 1 FREE*

GO GREEN
CARE
Chronic Deli
*$50 Delivery Min.
Call for Details.

www.santamariasun.com • July 12 - July 19, 2018 • Sun • 35